

Theoretically tasting the flavor composition of high-energy astrophysical neutrinos

Mauricio Bustamante

Center for Cosmology and AstroParticle Physics (CCAPP)
The Ohio State University

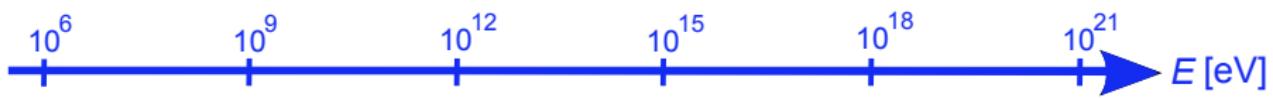
Fermilab Theory Seminar
October 15, 2015

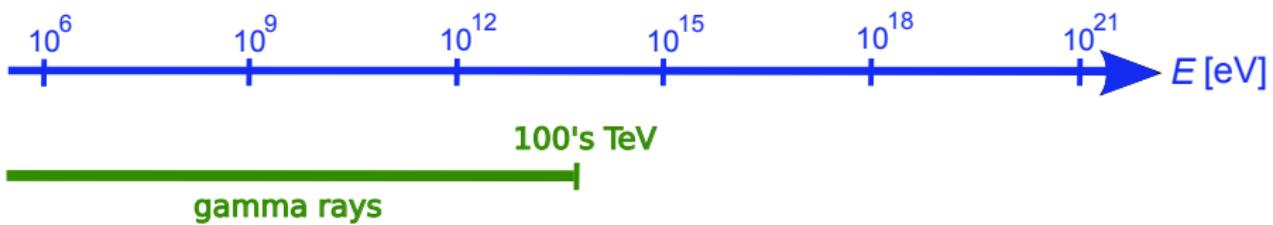


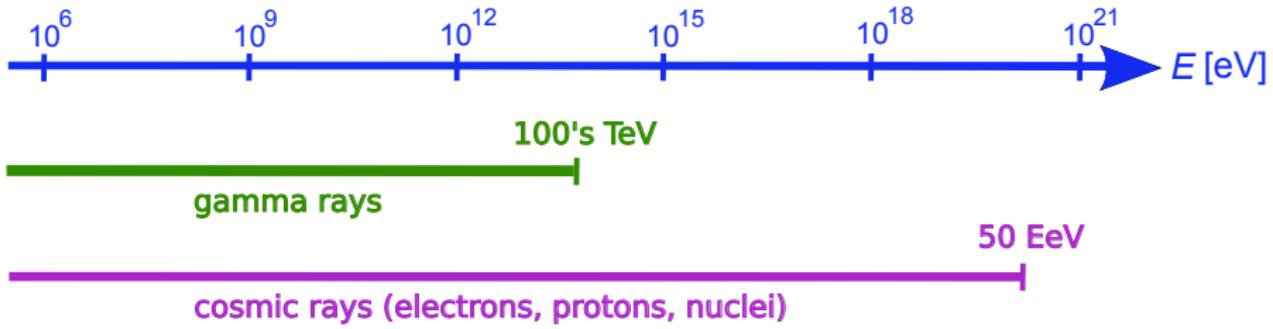
Neutrinos are special:

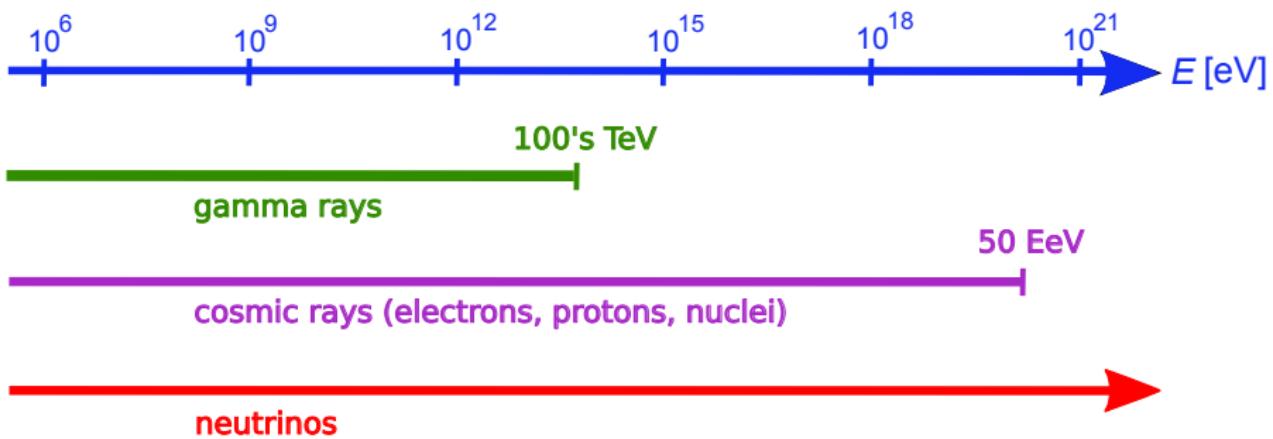
- ① They are lighter than any other massive particle we know of
- ② They retain their quantum nature over long distances
- ③ They are notoriously anti-social
- ④ (We believe) they reach higher energies than anything else

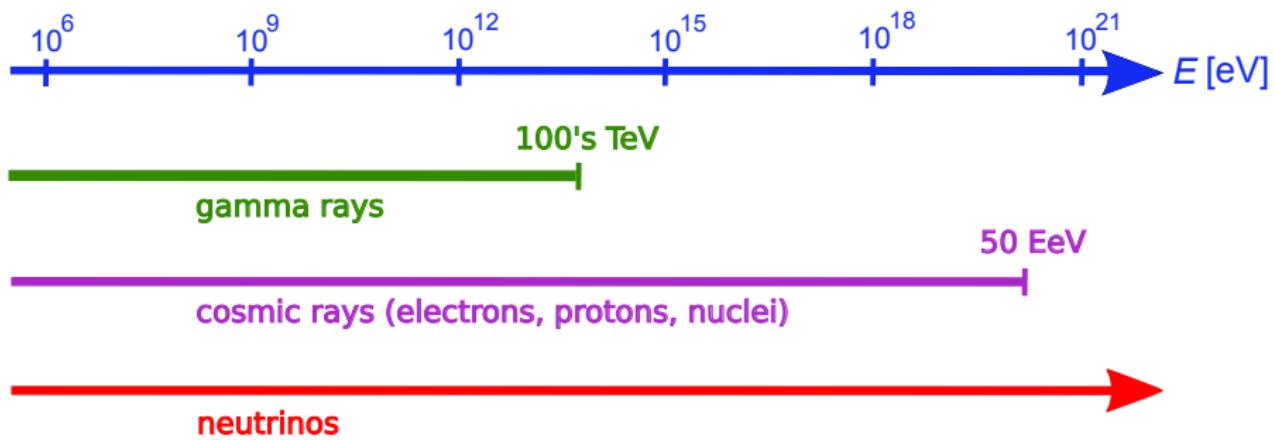
Let's talk energy scales...



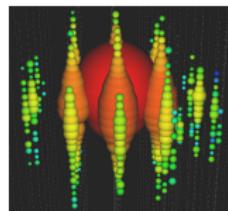
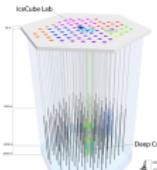




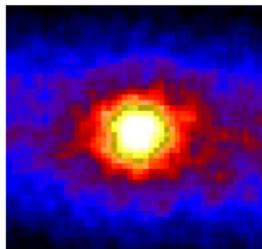
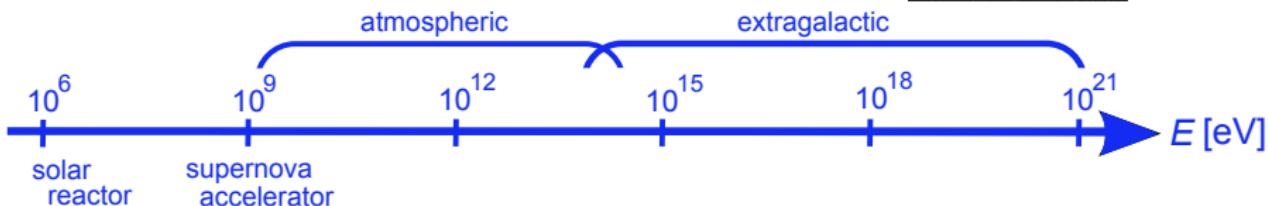


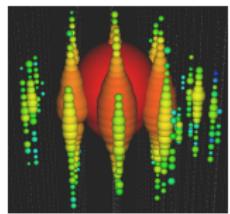
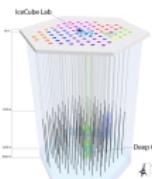


- ⑤ Unlike gamma rays and cosmic rays, neutrinos have flavor

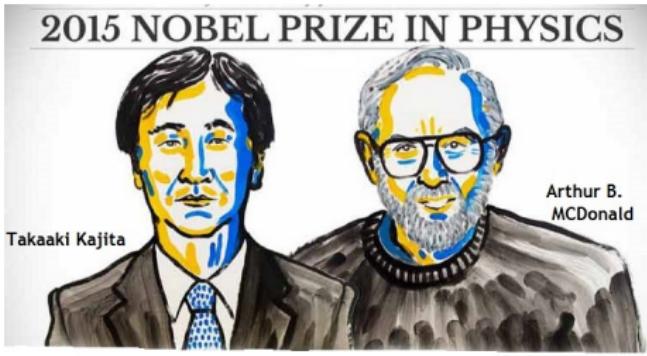
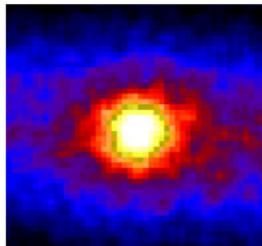
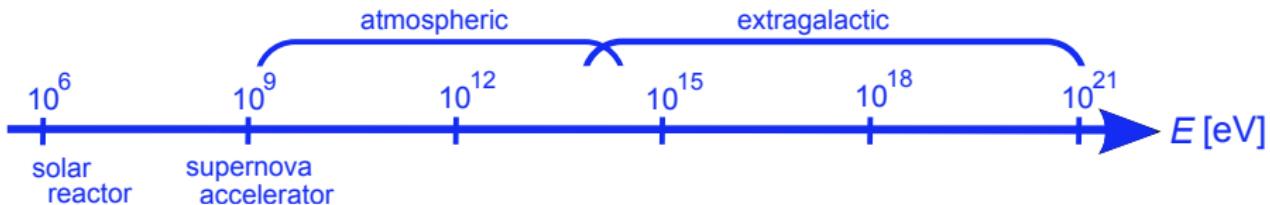


2013+





2013+

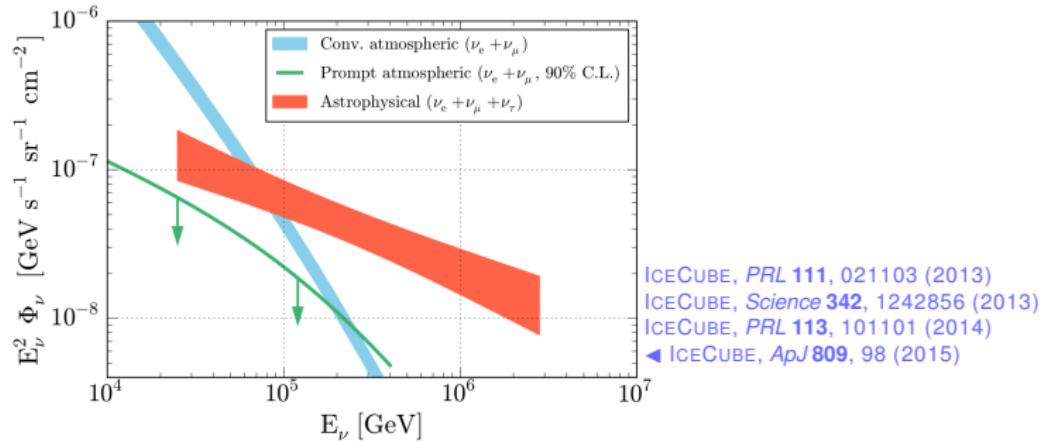


Next ν -Nobel for high-energy ν 's?

High-energy astrophysical neutrinos: they exist!

The era of neutrino astronomy has begun!

– IceCube has reported 54 events with 30 TeV – 2 PeV in 4 years



Diffuse per-flavor astrophysical flux [ICECUBE 2015]:

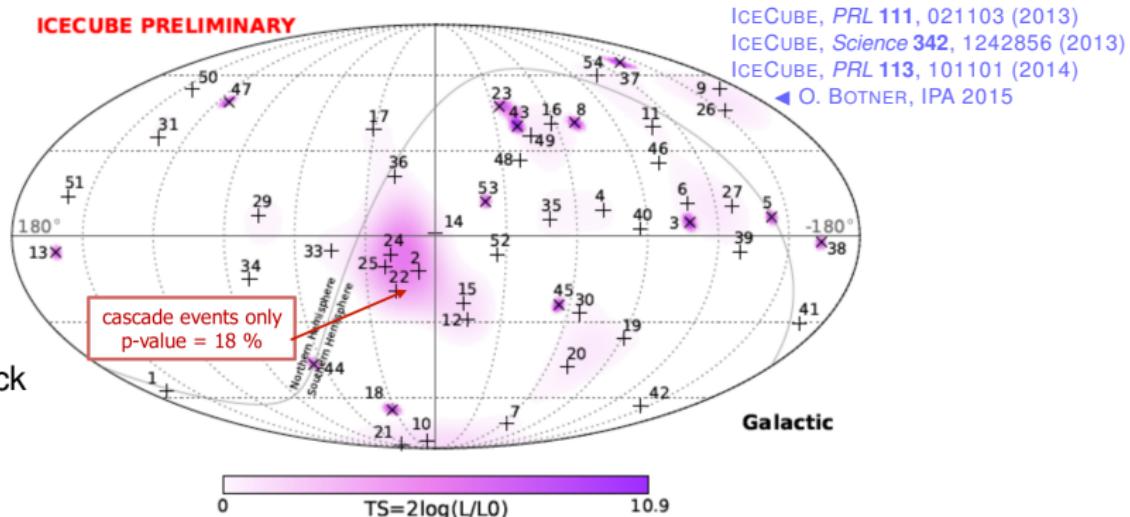
$$\Phi_\nu = \left(6.7_{-1.2}^{+1.1} \cdot 10^{-18}\right) \left(\frac{E}{100 \text{ TeV}}\right)^{-(2.5 \pm 0.09)} \text{ GeV}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}$$

High-energy astrophysical neutrinos: they exist!

The era of neutrino astronomy has begun!

– IceCube has reported 54 events with 30 TeV – 2 PeV in 4 years

Arrival directions compatible with an **isotropic** distribution –



– no association with sources found **yet**

What we know / don't know

What we know

- ▶ compatible with isotropy
- ▶ power-law $\propto E^{-2.5}$
- ▶ not coincident with transient sources (e.g., GRBs)
- ▶ not correlated with known sources
- ▶ **flavor composition: compatible with equal proportion of ν_e , ν_μ , ν_τ**
- ▶ also: no prompt atmospheric neutrinos

What we don't know

- ▶ what are the sources?
- ▶ what is the production mechanism?
- ▶ is there a cut-off at 2 PeV?
- ▶ what is the Galactic contribution, if any?
- ▶ what is the precise relation to UHE cosmic rays?
- ▶ is there new physics?
- ▶ **what is the precise flavor composition of the flux?**

...but we have good ideas on all

Flavor composition of neutrinos: an open question

Arguably the second most important question to answer is:

What is the proportion of ν_e , ν_μ , ν_τ in the diffuse flux?

Knowing this can reveal two important pieces of information:

- ▶ the physical conditions at the neutrino sources; and
- ▶ whether there is new physics, and of what kind

So it will pay off to explore what to expect from theory

[BARENBOIM, QUIGG, *PRD* **67**, 073024 (2003)]

[WINTER, *PRD* **88**, 083007 (2013)]

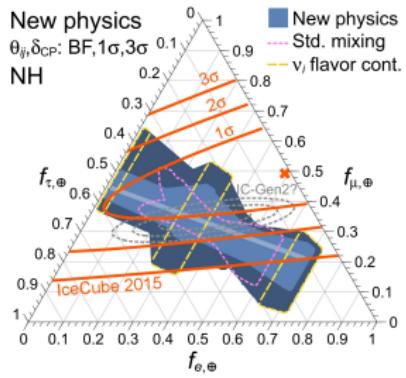
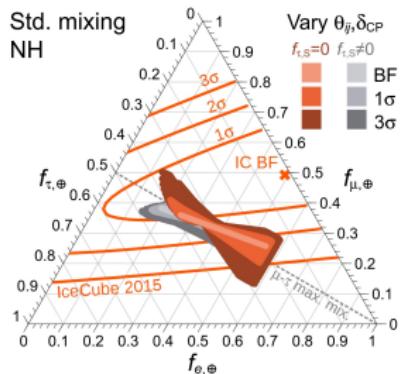
[MENA, PALOMARES, VINCENT, *PRL* **113**, 091103 (2014)]

[PALOMARES, VINCENT, MENA, *PRD* **91**, 103008 (2015)]

[PALLADINO, PAGLIAROLI, VILLANTE, VISSANI, *PRL* **114**, 171101 (2015)]

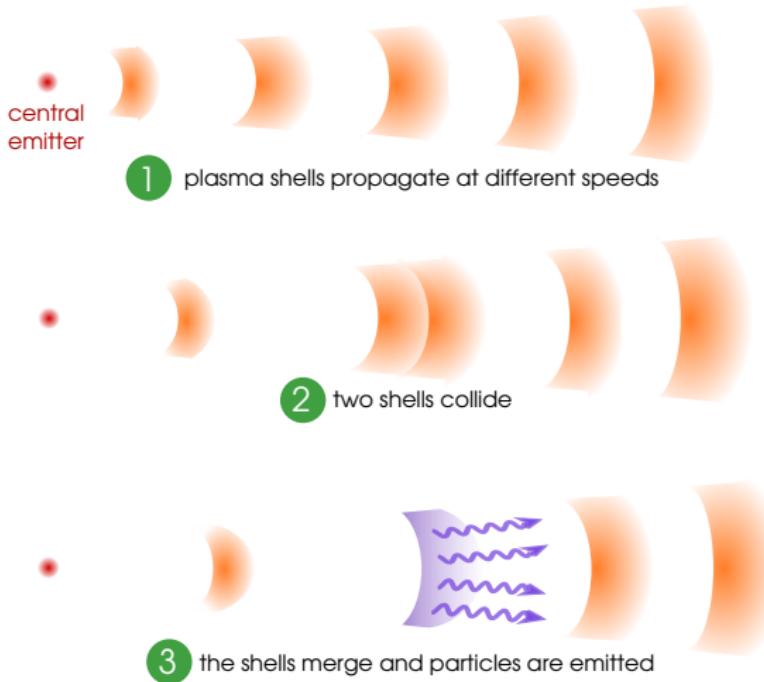
Mapping the theoretical landscape – three regions

- With standard neutrino oscillations, only $\sim 10\%$ of the flavor composition space can be accessed
- With new physics that affects the incoherent mix of mass eigenstates (e.g., ν decay), still only $\sim 25\%$
- A broader class of new physics is required to access the rest of the flavor space (e.g., CPT violation)



HE particles from astrophysical sources

Relativistically-expanding blobs of plasma containing e's, p's, and γ 's collide with each other, merge, and emit HE particles (e.g., in a GRB)



Why do we expect UHE neutrinos?

Joint production of UHECRs, ν 's, and γ 's:

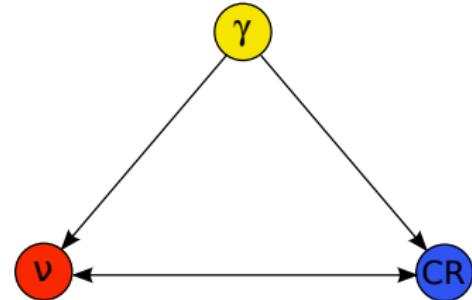
power law $\sim E^{-\alpha p}$ broken power law

$$p \text{ (red)} + \gamma \text{ (green)} \rightarrow \Delta^+ (1232) \rightarrow \begin{cases} n\pi^+, & \text{BR} = 1/3 \\ p\pi^0, & \text{BR} = 2/3 \end{cases}$$

$$\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\mu e^+ \nu_e \nu_\mu$$

$$\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$$

$$n \text{ (escapes)} \rightarrow pe^- \bar{\nu}_e$$



After propagation, with flavor mixing:

$$\nu_e : \nu_\mu : \nu_\tau : p = 1 : 1 : 1 : 1$$

(“one ν_μ per cosmic ray”)

This **neutron model** of CR emission is now strongly disfavored

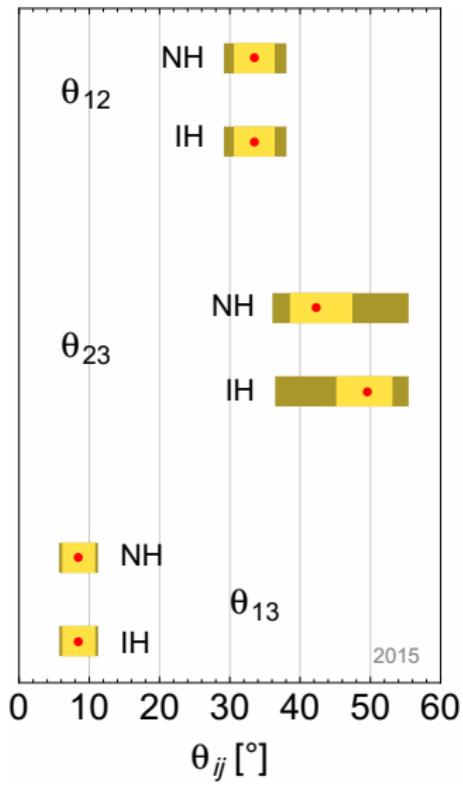
[AHLERS et al., *Astropart. Phys.* 35, 87 (2011)] [ICECUBE COLL., *Nature* 484, 351 (2012)]

But we can do better by letting the p 's escape without interacting

[BAERWALD, MB, WINTER, *ApJ* 768, 186 (2013)] [BAERWALD, MB, WINTER, *Astropart. Phys.* 62, 66 (2015)]

[MB, BAERWALD, MURASE, WINTER, *Nat. Commun.* 6, 6783 (2015)]

Normal vs. inverted mass hierarchy



PMNS matrix U depends on θ_{12} , θ_{23} , θ_{13} , δ_{CP} .

The neutrino mass hierarchy is unknown:

- ▶ Normal hierarchy (NH): ν_1 is lightest
- ▶ Inverted hierarchy (IH): ν_3 is lightest

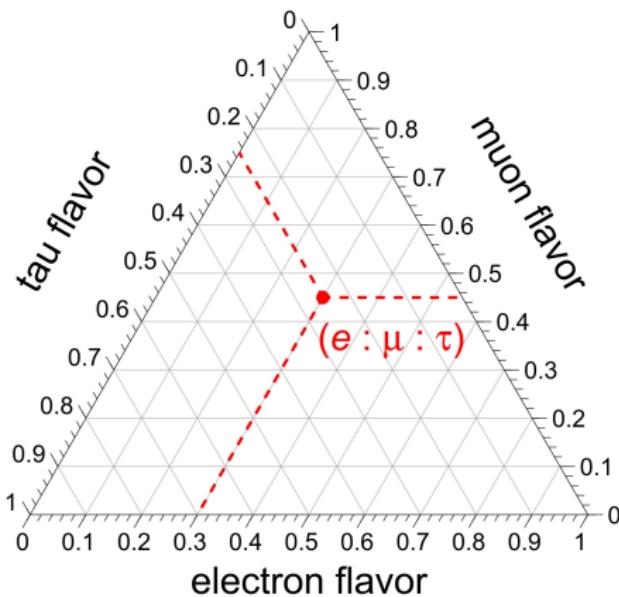
Using the latest fits from [GONZÁLEZ-GARCÍA et al., JHEP 1411, 052 \(2014\)](#):

- ▶ θ_{12} and θ_{13} are well-determined
- ▶ Little NH/IH difference for θ_{12} and θ_{13}
- ▶ Large error and NH/IH difference for θ_{23}
- ▶ At 3σ , NH and IH regions are equal

“Flavor triangle” or Dalitz/Mandelstam plot

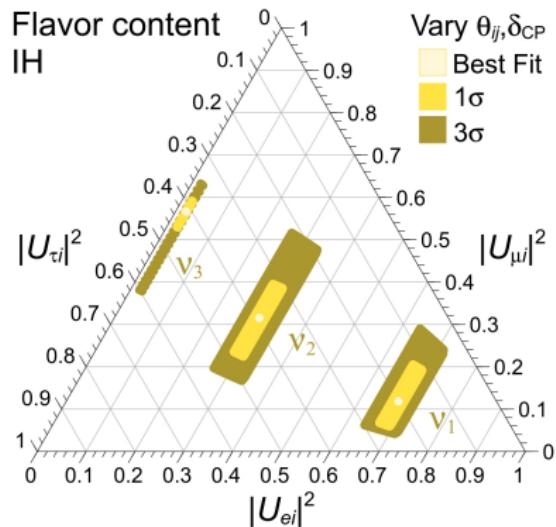
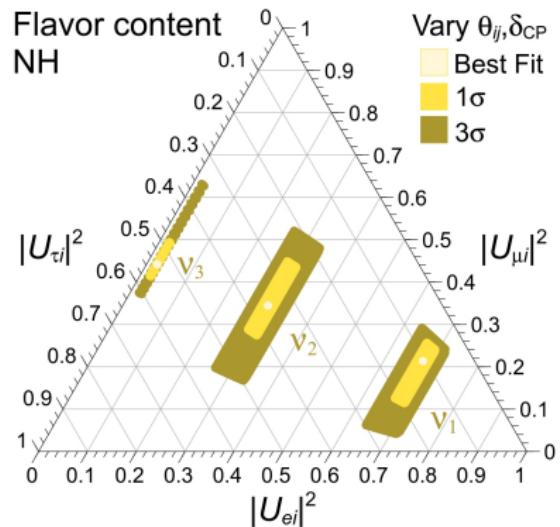
Assumes underlying unitarity: sum of projections on each axis is 1

How to read it: follow the tilt of the tick marks, e.g.,



Flavor content of the mass eigenstates ν_1 , ν_2 , ν_3

Show the e , μ , and τ content of the ν_i via ternary plots:



[MB, BEACOM, WINTER, 1506.02645, PRL]

Flavor mixing in high-energy astrophysical neutrinos

Probability of $\overline{\nu}_\alpha \rightarrow \overline{\nu}_\beta$ transition:

$$P_{\overline{\nu}_\alpha \rightarrow \overline{\nu}_\beta} = \delta_{\alpha\beta} - 4 \sum_{k>j} \operatorname{Re}(J_{\alpha\beta jk}) \sin^2 \left(\frac{\Delta m_{kj}^2 L}{4E} \right) \pm 2 \sum_{k>j} \operatorname{Im}(J_{\alpha\beta jk}) \sin \left(\frac{\Delta m_{kj}^2 L}{2E} \right)$$

For $\begin{cases} E \sim 1 \text{ PeV} \\ \Delta m_{kj}^2 \sim 10^{-4} \text{ eV}^2 \end{cases} \Rightarrow L_{\text{osc}} \sim 10^{-10} \text{ Mpc} \ll L = 10 \text{ Mpc} - \text{few Gpc}$

- ▶ Therefore, oscillations are very rapid
- ▶ They average out after only a few oscillations lengths:

$$\sin^2(\dots) \rightarrow 1/2, \quad \sin(\dots) \rightarrow 0$$

Hence, for high-energy astrophysical neutrinos:

$$P_{\overline{\nu}_\alpha \rightarrow \overline{\nu}_\beta} = \sum_{i=1}^3 |U_{\alpha i}|^2 |U_{\beta i}|^2 \quad \blacktriangleleft \text{incoherent mixture of mass eigenstates}$$

Flavor ratios

- ▶ Neutrino production at the source via pion decay:

$$p\gamma \rightarrow \Delta^+(1232) \rightarrow \pi^+ n \quad \pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \bar{\nu}_\mu \nu_\mu$$

- ▶ Flavor ratios at the **source**: $(f_e : f_\mu : f_\tau)_S \approx (1/3 : 2/3 : 0)$
- ▶ At **Earth**, due to flavor mixing:

$$f_{\alpha,\oplus} = \sum_{\beta} P_{\beta\alpha} f_{\beta,S} = \sum_{\beta} \left(\sum_{i=1}^3 |U_{\alpha i}|^2 |U_{\beta i}|^2 \right) f_{\beta,S}$$

$$(1/3 : 2/3 : 0)_S \xrightarrow{\text{flavor mixing, NH, best-fit}} (0.36 : 0.32 : 0.32)_{\oplus}$$

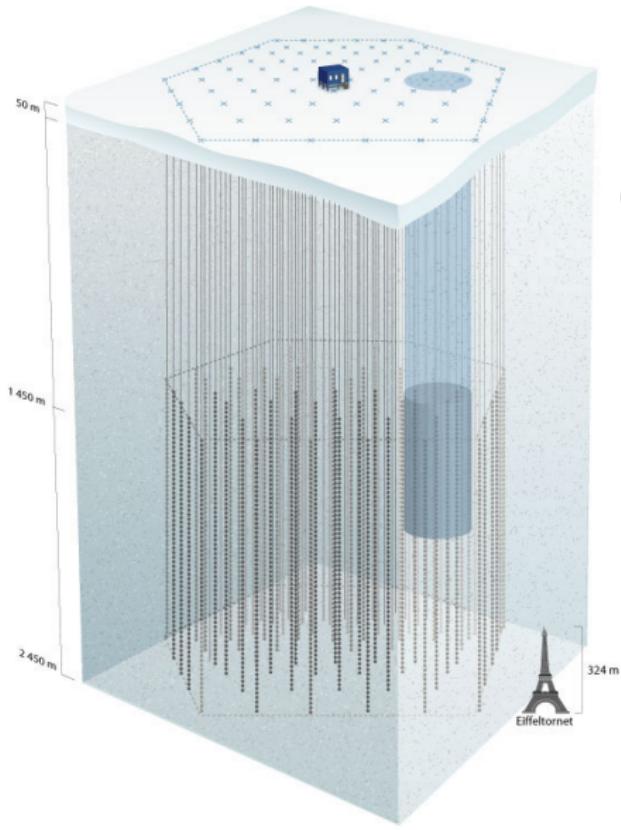
- ▶ Other compositions at the source:

$$(0 : 1 : 0)_S \longrightarrow (0.26 : 0.36 : 0.38)_{\oplus} \text{ ("muon damped")}$$

$$(1 : 0 : 0)_S \longrightarrow (0.55 : 0.26 : 0.19)_{\oplus} \text{ ("neutron decay")}$$

$$(1/2 : 1/2 : 0)_S \longrightarrow (0.40 : 0.31 : 0.29)_{\oplus} \text{ ("charmed decays")}$$

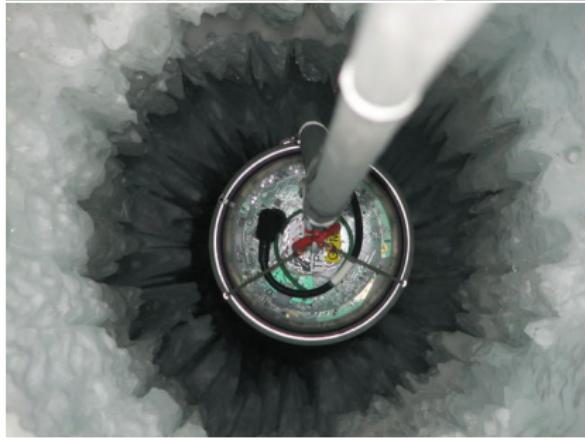
Detecting the neutrinos: IceCube



IceCube: km³ in-ice South Pole Čerenkov detector

- ▶ νN interactions ($N = n, p$) create particle showers
- ▶ 86 strings with 5160 digital optical modules (DOMs)
- ▶ depths between 1450 m and 2450 m

Detecting the neutrinos: IceCube



IceCube: km³ in-ice South Pole Čerenkov detector

- ▶ νN interactions ($N = n, p$) create particle showers
- ▶ 86 strings with 5160 digital optical modules (DOMs)
- ▶ depths between 1450 m and 2450 m

How does IceCube see flavor?

Below $E_\nu \sim 5$ PeV, there are two event topologies:

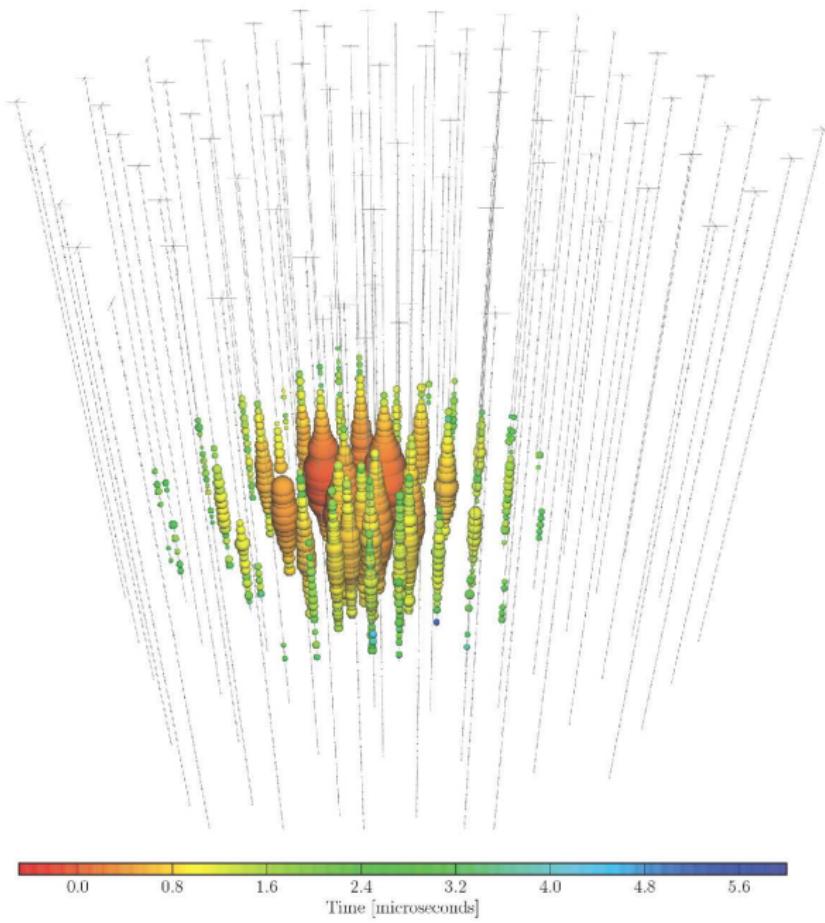
- ▶ **Showers:** generated by CC ν_e or ν_τ ; or by NC ν_x
- ▶ **Muon tracks:** generated by CC ν_μ

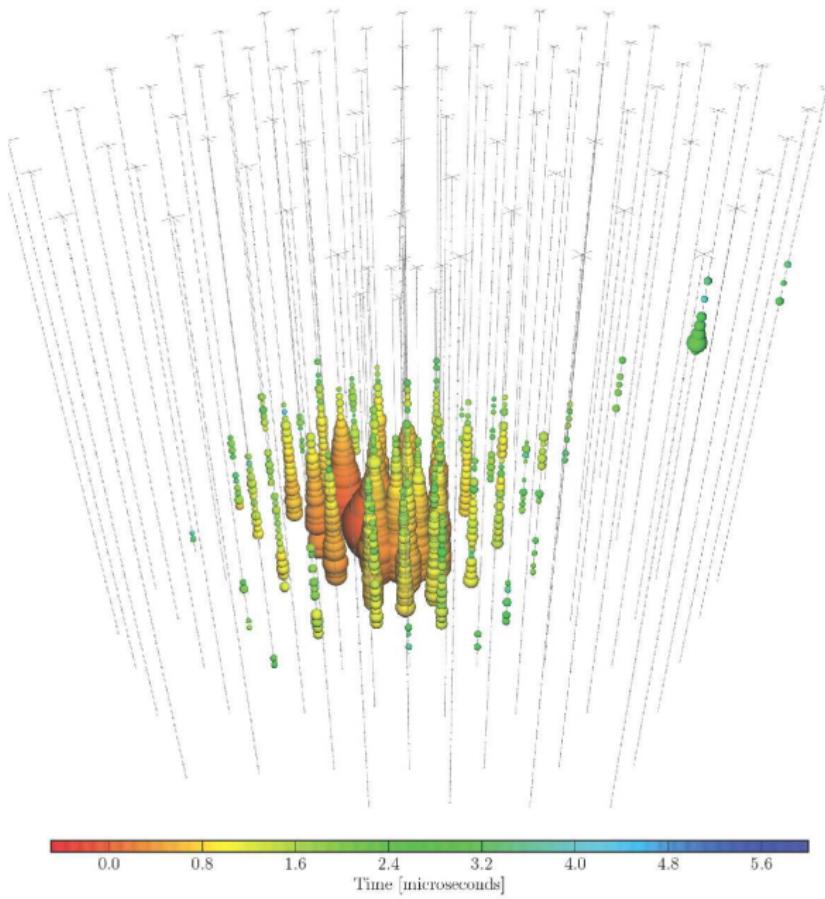
(Some muon tracks can be mis-reconstructed as showers)

At $\gtrsim 5$ PeV (**no events so far**), all of the above, plus:

- ▶ **Glashow resonance:** CC $\bar{\nu}_e e$ interactions at 6.3 PeV
- ▶ **Double bangs:** CC $\nu_\tau \rightarrow \tau \rightarrow \nu_\tau$

Flavor ratios must be inferred from the number of showers and tracks

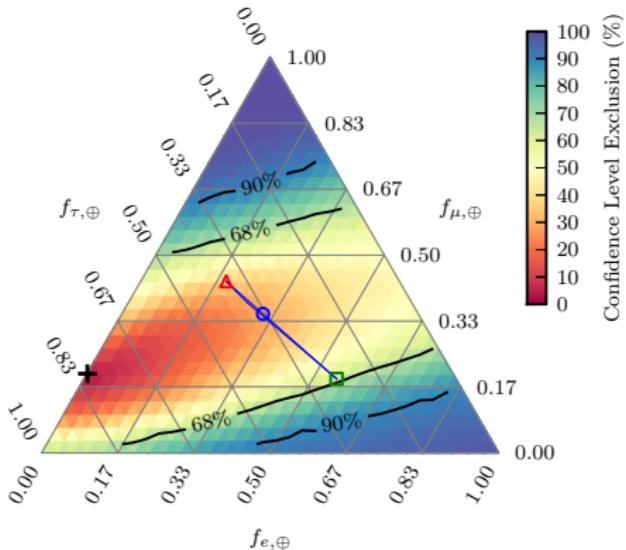




Two IceCube analyses of flavor composition

Using contained events only

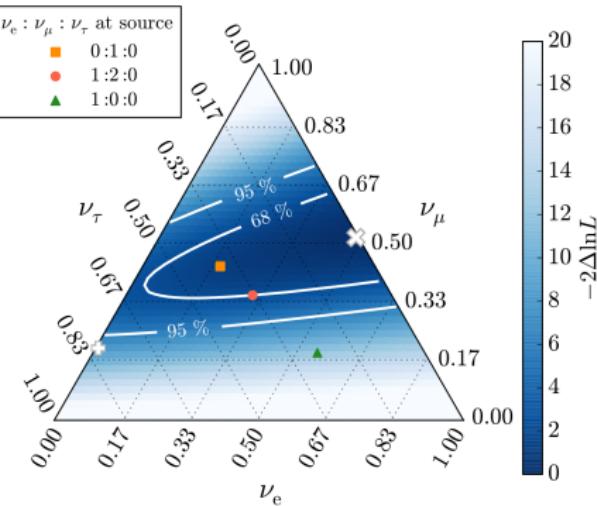
[ICECUBE COLL., PRL 114, 171102 (2015)]



Best fit: $(0 : 0.2 : 0.8)_\oplus$

Using contained events + throughgoing muons

[ICECUBE COLL., ApJ 809, 98 (2015)]

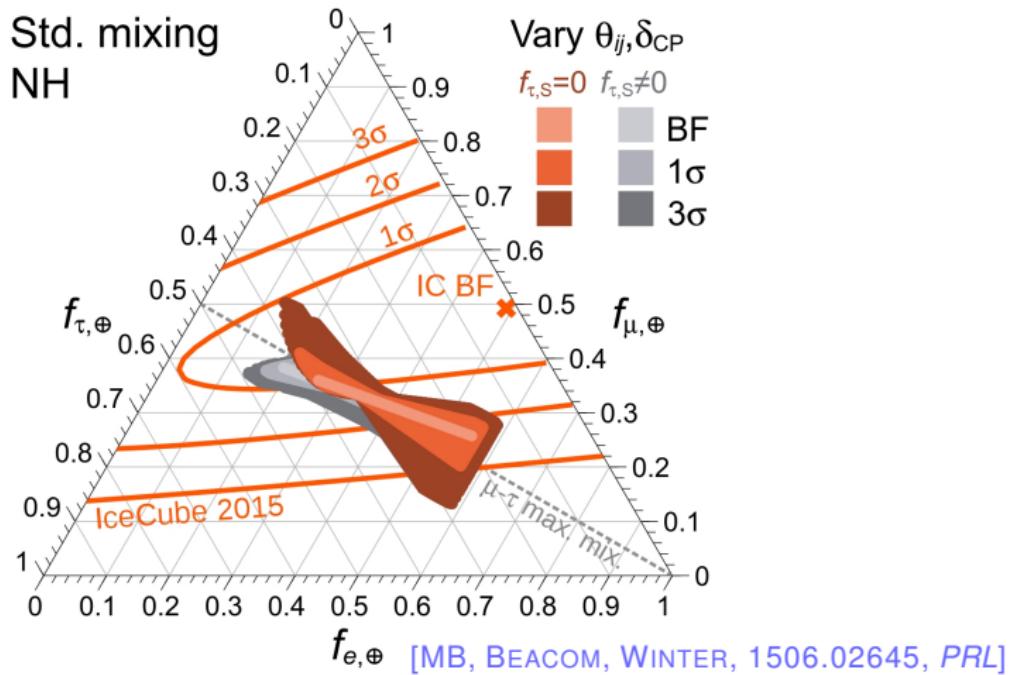


Best fit: $(0.49 : 0.51 : 0)_\oplus$

- ▶ Compatible with standard source compositions
- ▶ Bounds are weak – need more data and better flavor-tagging

Flavor combinations at Earth from std. mixing

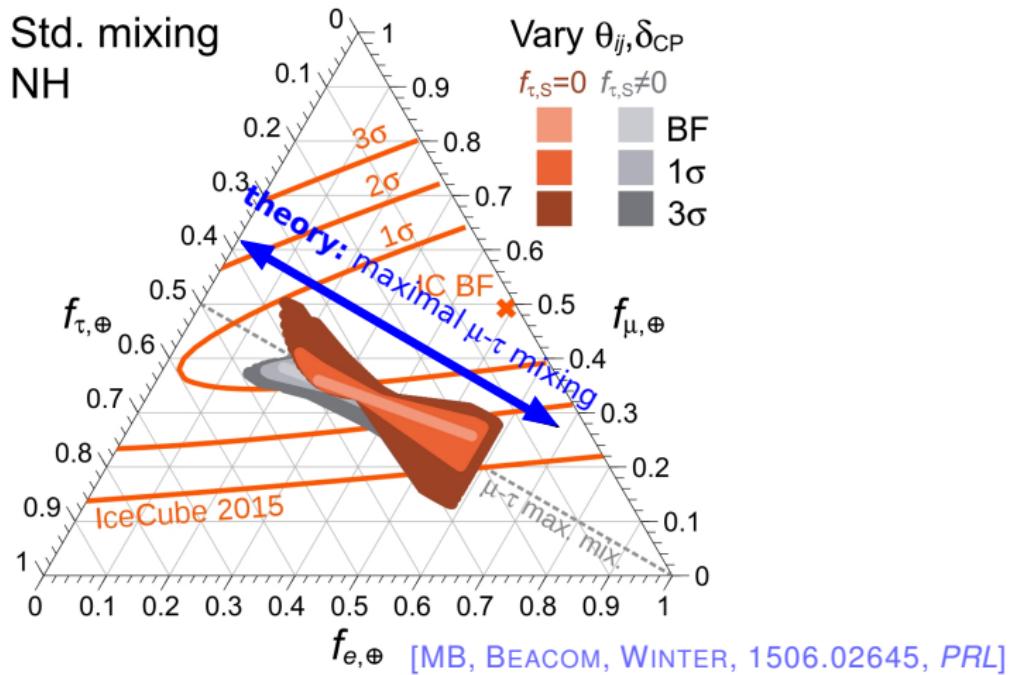
Assume unconstrained flavor composition at source (with and w/o ν_τ):



Std. mixing can access *only* $\sim 10\%$ of the possible combinations

Flavor combinations at Earth from std. mixing

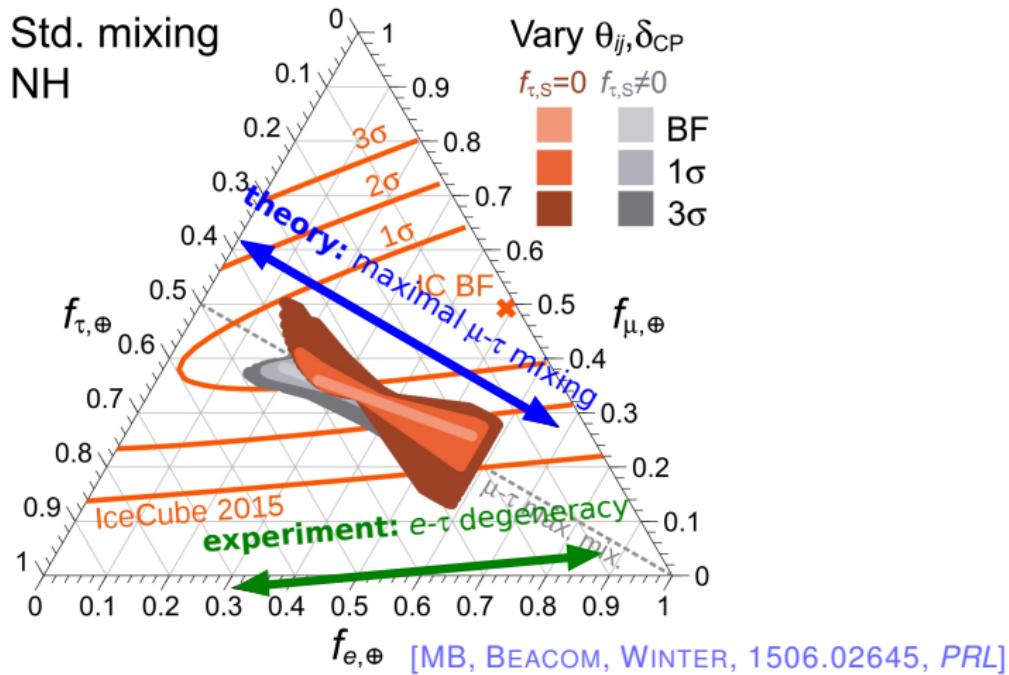
Assume unconstrained flavor composition at source (with and w/o ν_τ):



Std. mixing can access *only* $\sim 10\%$ of the possible combinations

Flavor combinations at Earth from std. mixing

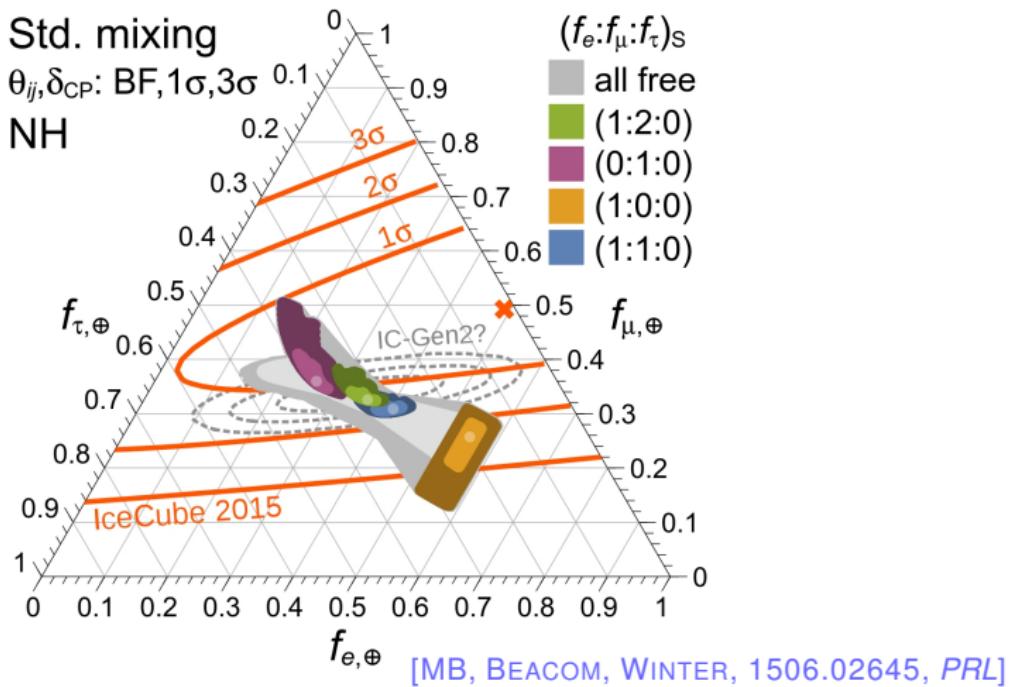
Assume unconstrained flavor composition at source (with and w/o ν_τ):



Std. mixing can access *only* $\sim 10\%$ of the possible combinations

Selected source compositions

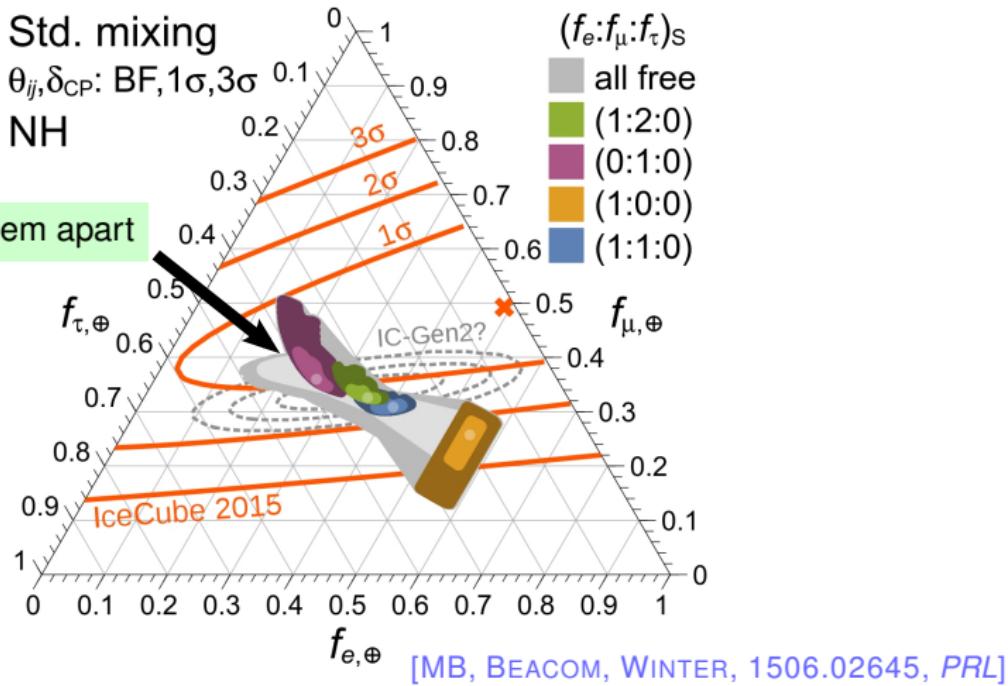
We can look at results for particular choices of ratios at the source:



Selected source compositions

We can look at results for particular choices of ratios at the source:

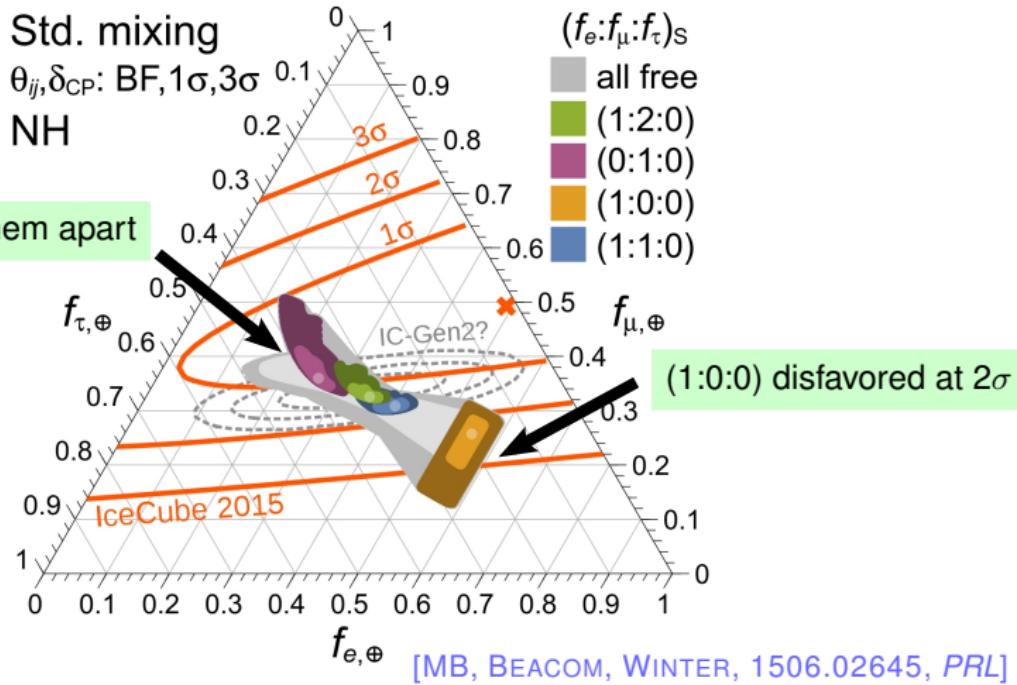
challenging to tell them apart



Selected source compositions

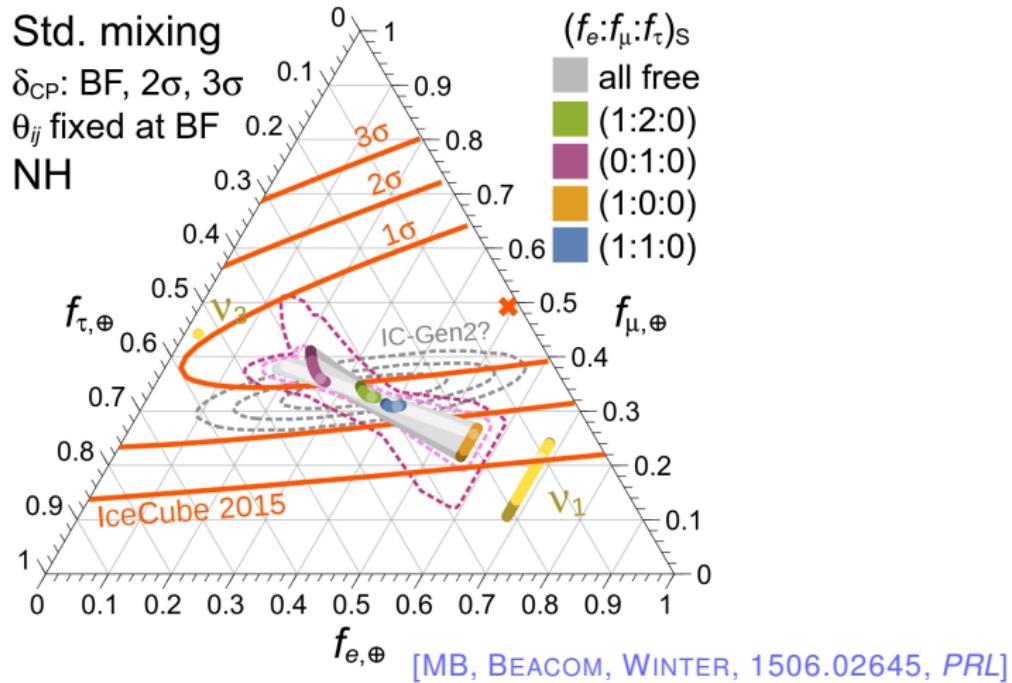
We can look at results for particular choices of ratios at the source:

challenging to tell them apart



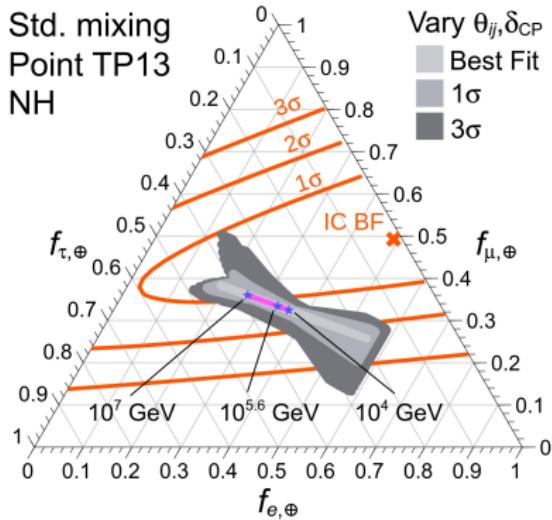
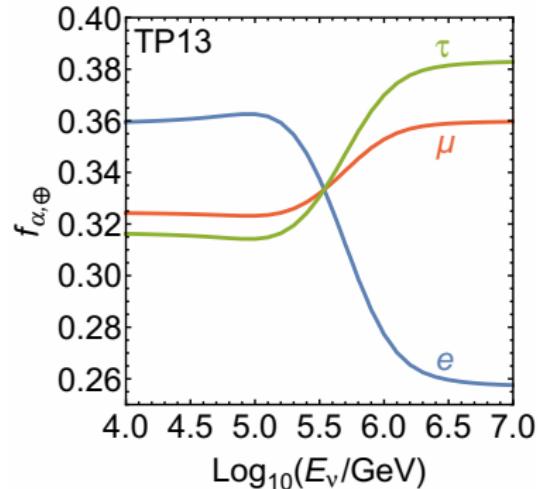
Perfect knowledge of mixing angles

In a few years, we might know all the mixing parameters except δ_{CP} :



Energy dependence of the composition at the source

Different ν production channels are accessible at different energies



[MB, BEACOM, WINTER, 1506.02645, PRL]

- TP13: $p\gamma$ model, target photons from co-accelerated electrons
[HÜMMER et al., Astropart. Phys. 34, 205 (2010)]
- Equivalent to different sources types contributing to the diffuse flux
- Will be difficult to resolve
[KASHTI, WAXMAN, PRL 95, 181101 (2005)] [LIPARI, LUSIGNOLI, MELONI, PRD 75, 123005 (2007)]

New physics: effect on the flavor composition

- ▶ New physics in the neutrino sector could affect the
 - ▶ production; and/or
 - ▶ propagation; and/or
 - ▶ detection
- ▶ **Detection:** probe NP in the ν interaction length via the angular dependence of the flux [MARFATIA, MCKAY, WEILER, 1502.06337]
- ▶ NP at **production** and **propagation** could modify the incoherent mixture of ν_1, ν_2, ν_3
- ▶ Example: neutrino decay ▶

[BARENBOIM, QUIGG, *PRD* **67**, 073024 (2003)]

[BEACOM, BELL, HOOPER, PAKVASA, WEILER, *PRL* **90**, 181301 (2003)]

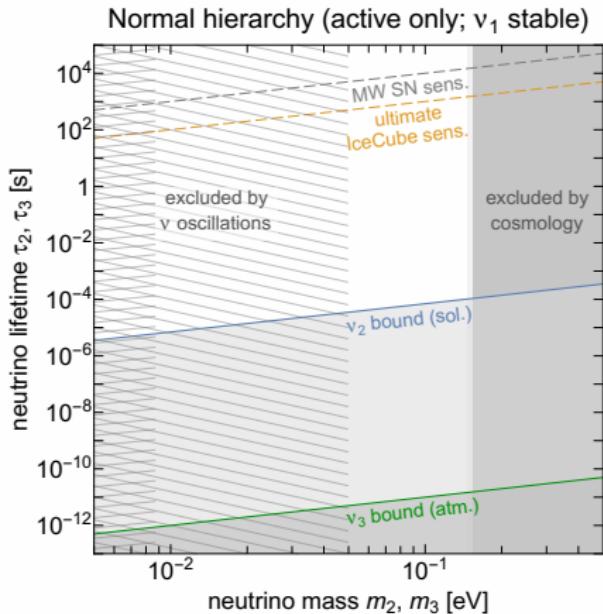
[MALTONI, WINTER, *JHEP* **07**, 064 (2008)]

[BAERWALD, MB, WINTER, *JCAP* **1210**, 020 (2012)]

[PAGLIAROLI, PALLADINO, VISSANI, VILLANTE 1506.02624]

Neutrino decay

- ▶ **SM:** ν lifetimes are $> 10^{36}$ yr
- ▶ Via new-physics decay modes, they could be shorter
- ▶ Consider two possibilities:
 - ▶ **NH:** $\nu_2, \nu_3 \rightarrow \nu_1$
 - ▶ **IH:** $\nu_1, \nu_2 \rightarrow \nu_3$
- ▶ There are experimental bounds on the lifetime τ_i/m_i



[MB, BEACOM, MURASE, IN PREP.]

Decay: effect on flavor ratios

$$f_{\alpha,\oplus} \left(E_0, z, \kappa_j^{-1} \right) = |U_{\alpha l}|^2 + \sum_{j \neq l} \left(|U_{\alpha j}|^2 - |U_{\alpha l}|^2 \right) f_{j,S} D \left(E_0, z, \kappa_j^{-1} \right)$$

$l = 1$ (NH), 3 (IH)

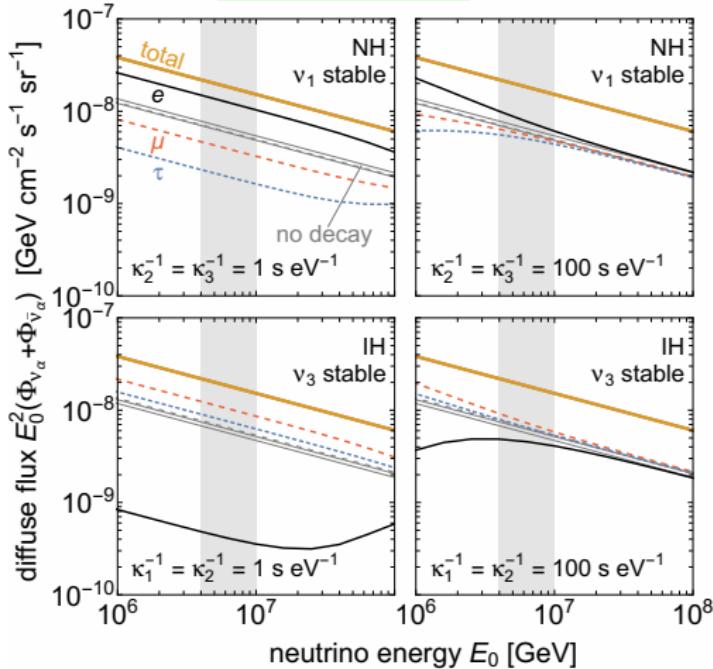
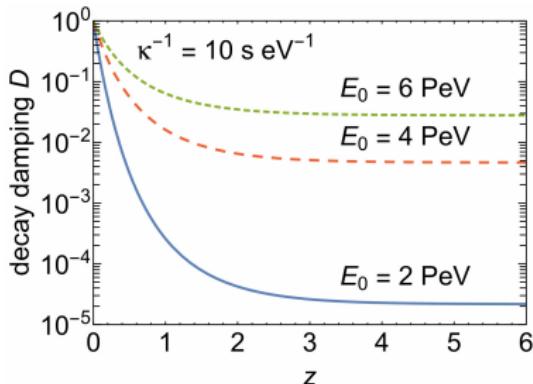
$\nu_{1,2,3}$ ratios at source

- Damping due to decay:

$$0 < D < 1$$

- Complete decay:

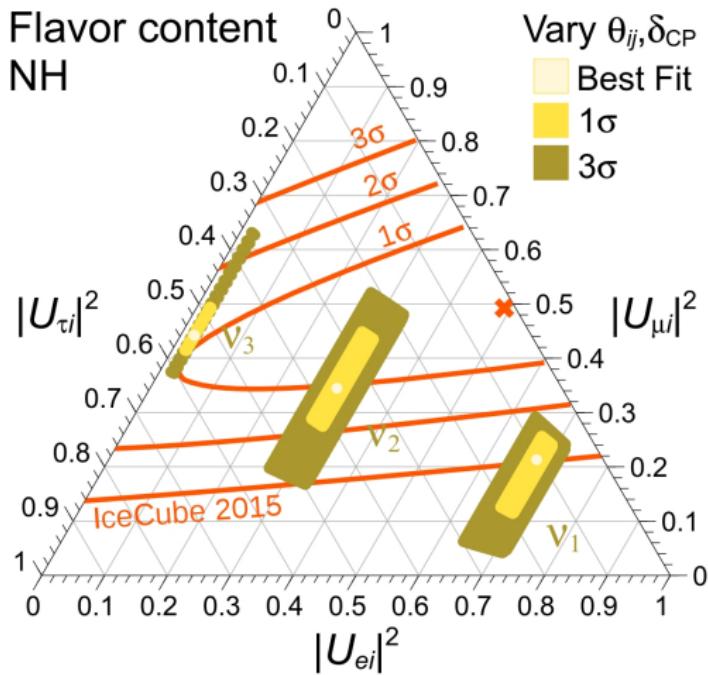
$$D \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow f_{\alpha,\oplus} = |U_{\alpha l}|^2$$



[MB, BEACOM, MURASE, IN PREP.]

Decay: using the flavor ratios

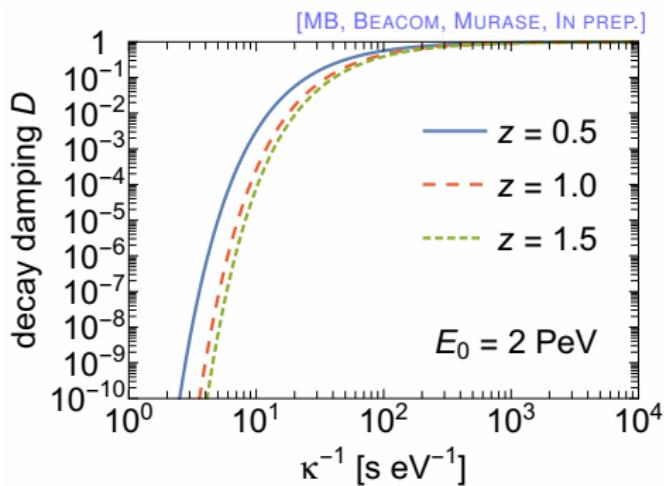
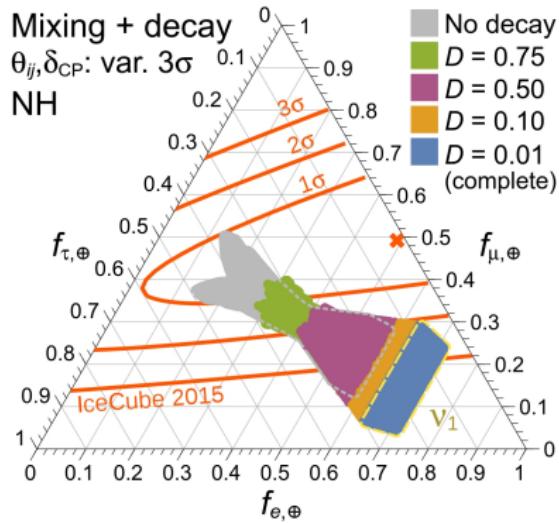
Flavor ratios are currently more sensitive to complete decay in the NH than in the IH:



Decay: lifetime bounds with current IceCube data

Flavor ratios with decay in the NH ($\nu_2, \nu_3 \rightarrow \nu_1$):

$$f_{\alpha,\oplus} (E_0, z, \kappa_j^{-1}) = |U_{\alpha 1}|^2 + \sum_{j=2,3} (|U_{\alpha j}|^2 - |U_{\alpha 1}|^2) f_{j,\oplus} D(E_0, z, \kappa_j^{-1})$$



$D \lesssim 0.01$ implies a bound of $\kappa_{2,3}^{-1} \gtrsim 10 \text{ s eV}^{-1}$ at $\gtrsim 2\sigma$

Decay: lifetime bounds with current IceCube data

Flavor ratios with decay in the NH ($\nu_2, \nu_3 \rightarrow \nu_1$):

$$f_{\alpha, \oplus} (E_0, Z, \kappa_j^{-1})$$

Mixing + decay
 θ_{ij}, δ_{CP} : var. 3σ

NH 0.2

 0.3

 0.4

 0.5

 0.6

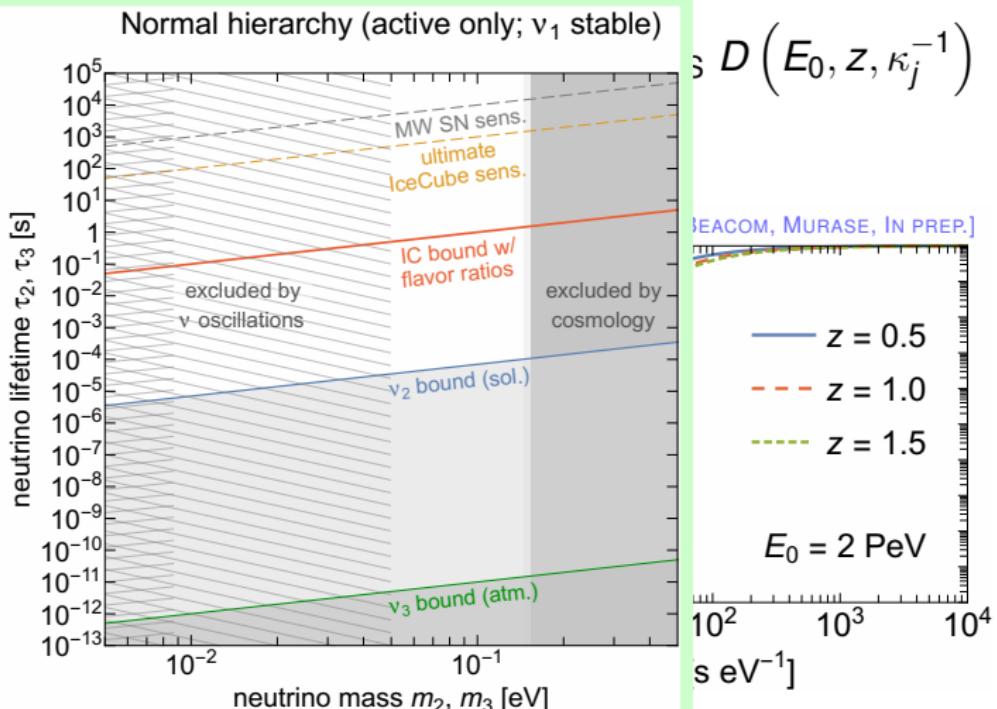
 0.7

 0.8

 0.9

IceCube 2015

0.0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4

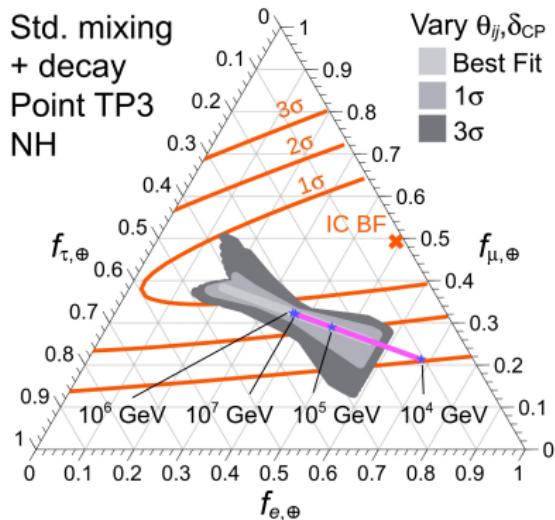
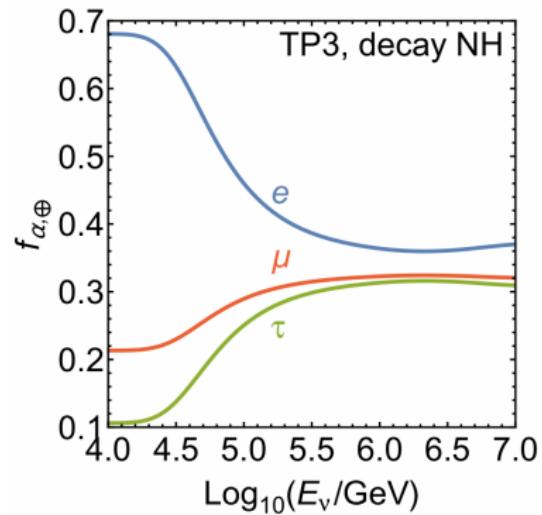


$D \lesssim \dots$ implies a bound on $\nu_{2,3} \sim \dots$

at $\gtrsim 2\sigma$

Decay: seeing the energy dependence?

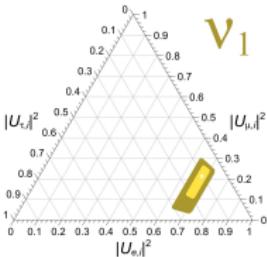
- ▶ The effect of decay shows up at low energies
- ▶ e.g., for a model of AGN cores [HÜMMER *et al.*, *Astropart. Phys.* **34**, 205 (2010)],



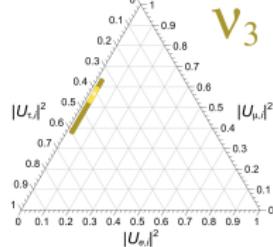
[MB, BEACOM, WINTER, 1506.02645, PRL]

Decay: complete vs. incomplete

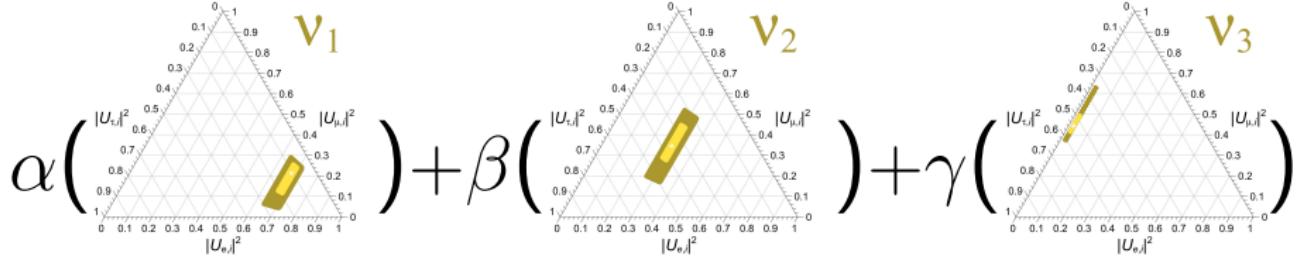
- Complete decay: only ν_1 (ν_3) reach Earth assuming NH (IH)



or

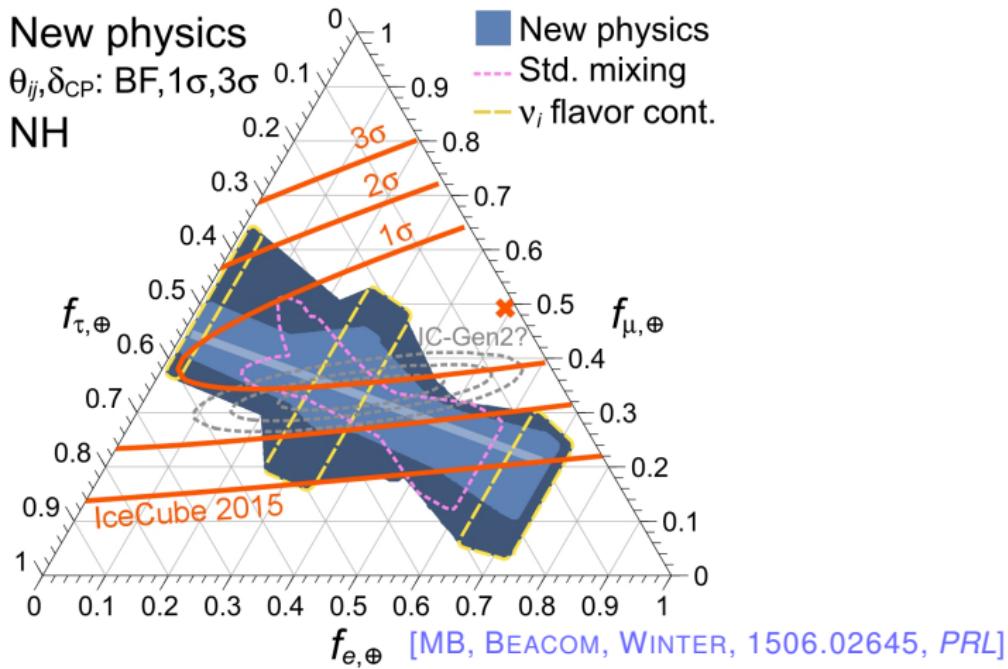


- Incomplete decay: incoherent mixture of ν_1 , ν_2 , ν_3 reaches Earth



New physics that changes the ν_i mixture

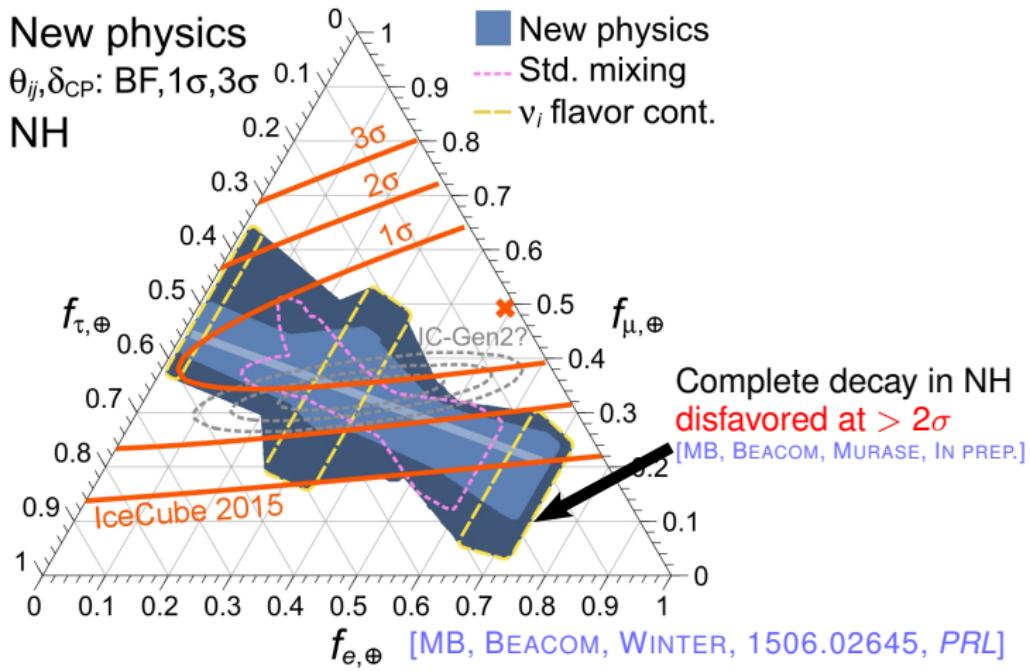
Region of all linear combinations of ν_1 , ν_2 , ν_3 :



This class of NP can access *only* $\sim 25\%$ of the possible combinations

New physics that changes the ν_i mixture

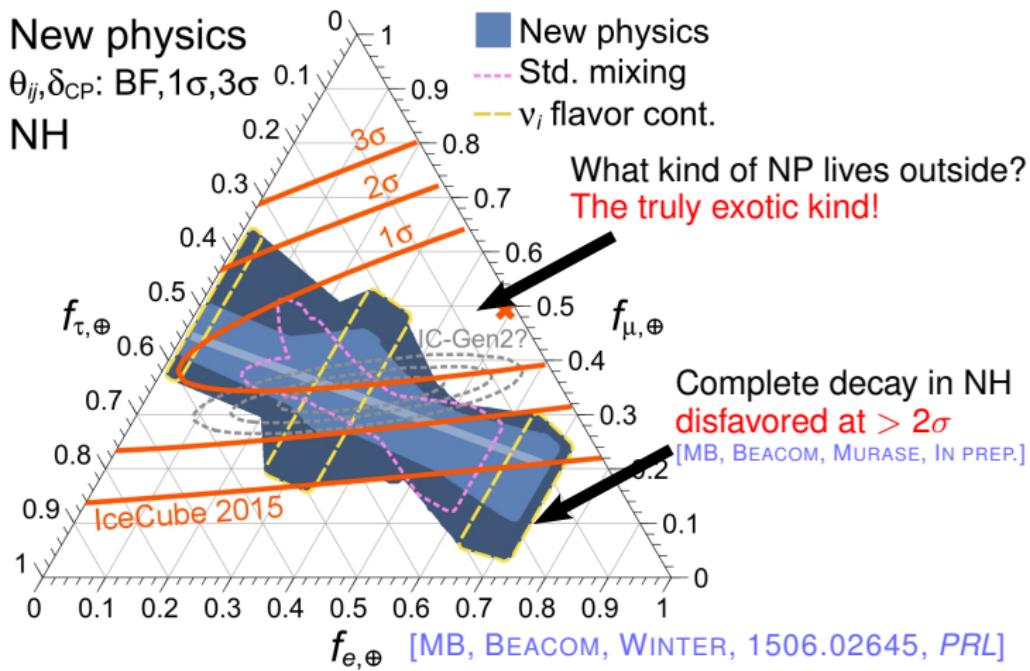
Region of all linear combinations of ν_1 , ν_2 , ν_3 :



This class of NP can access *only* $\sim 25\%$ of the possible combinations

New physics that changes the ν_i mixture

Region of all linear combinations of ν_1 , ν_2 , ν_3 :



This class of NP can access *only* $\sim 25\%$ of the possible combinations

New physics — of the *truly exotic* kind

What kind of NP lives outside the blue region?

- ▶ NP that changes the values of the mixing parameters, *e.g.*,
 - ▶ violation of Lorentz and CPT invariance
[BARENBOIM, QUIGG, *PRD* **67**, 073024 (2003)] [MB, GAGO, PEÑA-GARAY, *JHEP* **1004**, 005 (2010)]
 - ▶ violation of equivalence principle
[GASPERINI, *PRD* **39**, 3606 (1989)] [GLASHOW *et al.*, *PRD* **56**, 2433 (1997)]
 - ▶ coupling to a torsion field
[DE SABBATA, GASPERINI, *Nuovo. Cim.* **A65**, 479 (1981)]
 - ▶ renormalization-group running of mixing parameters
[MB, GAGO, JONES, *JHEP* **1105**, 133 (2011)]
- ▶ active-sterile mixing [AEIKENS *et al.*, 1410.0408]
- ▶ flavor-violating physics
- ▶ $\nu - \bar{\nu}$ mixing (if ν , $\bar{\nu}$ flavor ratios are considered separately)

New physics — of the *truly exotic* kind

What kind of NP lives outside the blue region?

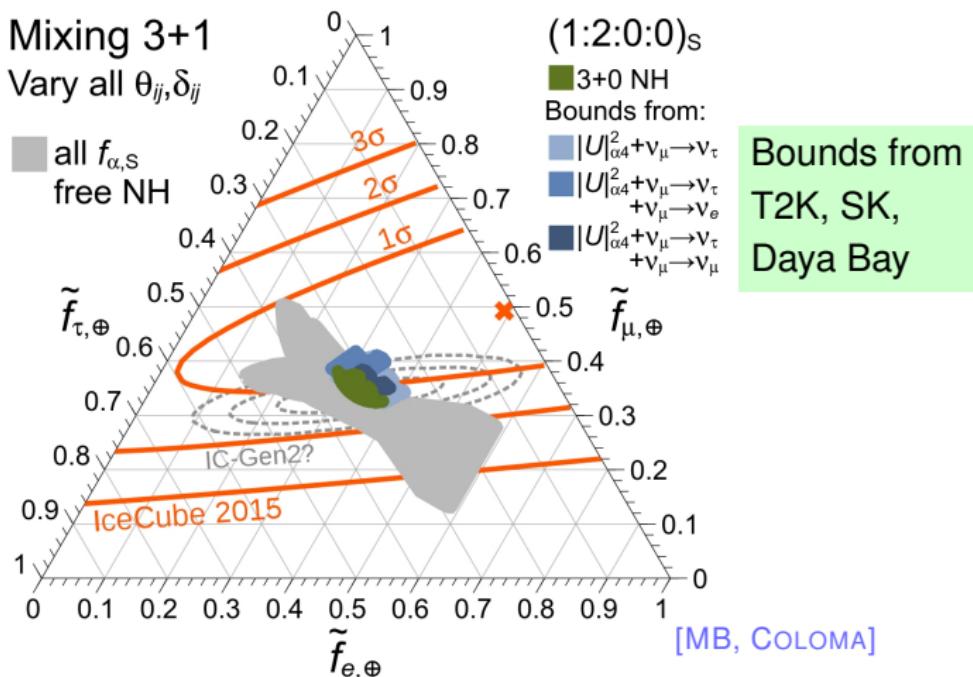
- ▶ NP that changes the values of the mixing parameters, *e.g.*,
 - ▶ violation of Lorentz and CPT invariance
[BARENBOIM, QUIGG, *PRD* **67**, 073024 (2003)] [MB, GAGO, PEÑA-GARAY, *JHEP* **100**, 035 (2010)]
 - ▶ violation of equivalence principle
[GASPERINI, *PRD* **39**, 3606 (1989)] [GLASHOW *et al.*, *PRD* **56**, 2433 (1997)]
 - ▶ coupling to a torsion field
[DE SABBATA, GASPERINI, *Nuovo. Cim.* **A65**, 479 (1981)]
 - ▶ renormalization-group running of mixing parameters
[MB, GAGO, JONES, *JHEP* **1105**, 133 (2011)]
- ▶ active-sterile mixing [AEIKENS *et al.*, 1410.0408]
- ▶ flavor-violating physics
- ▶ $\nu - \bar{\nu}$ mixing (if ν , $\bar{\nu}$ flavor ratios are considered separately)



New physics — active-sterile mixing

Mixing with a sterile neutrino (3+1) changes the flavor ratios:

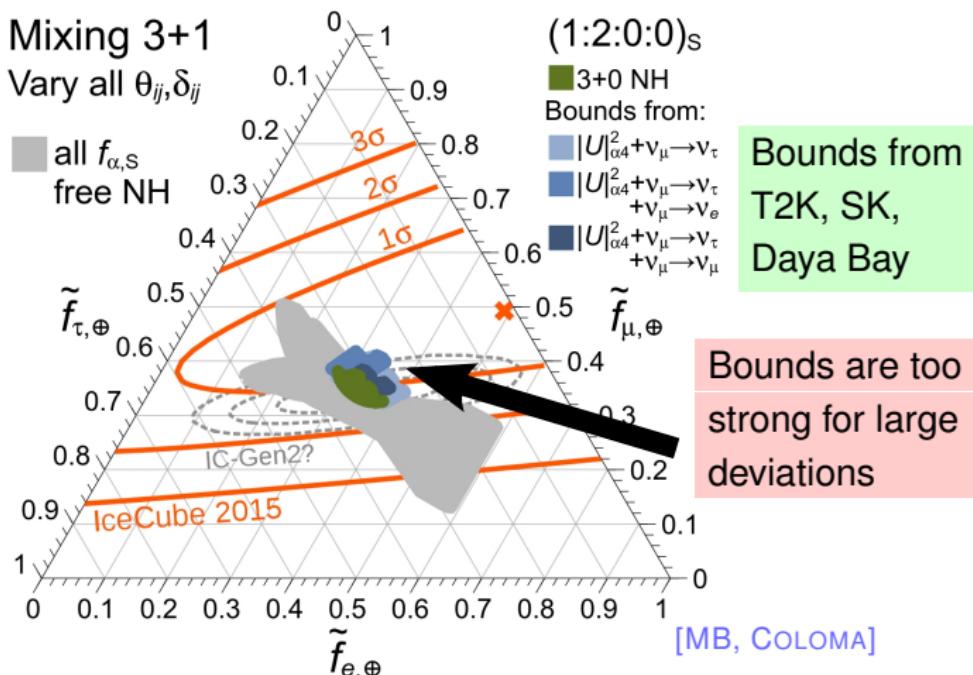
- standard parameters: $\theta_{12}, \theta_{23}, \theta_{13}, \delta_{13}$
- sterile parameters: $\theta_{14}, \theta_{24}, \theta_{34}, \delta_{24}, \delta_{34}$



New physics — active-sterile mixing

Mixing with a sterile neutrino (3+1) changes the flavor ratios:

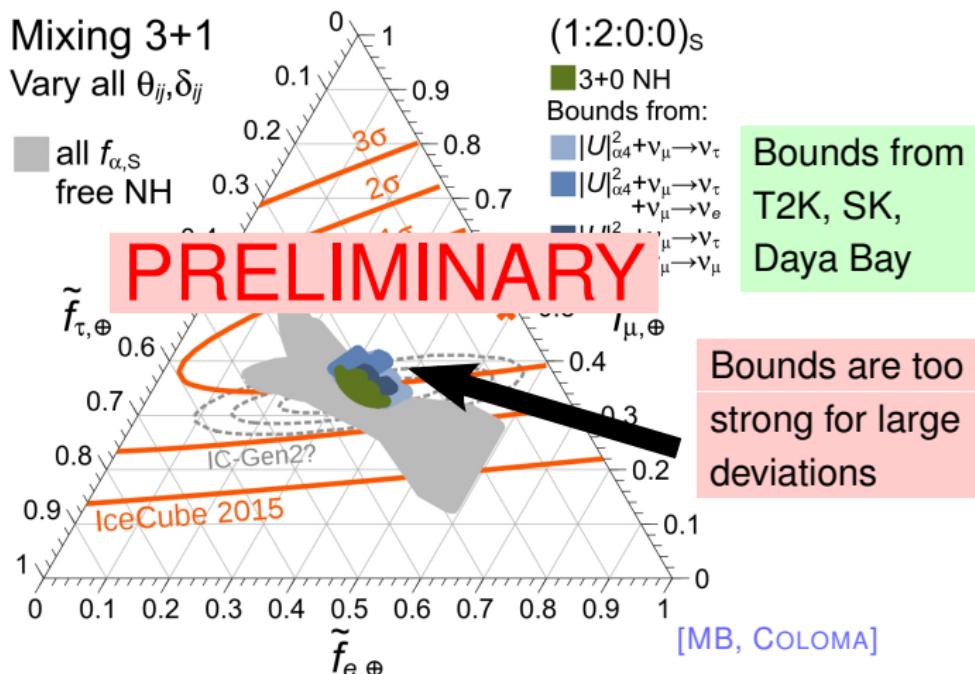
- standard parameters: $\theta_{12}, \theta_{23}, \theta_{13}, \delta_{13}$
- sterile parameters: $\theta_{14}, \theta_{24}, \theta_{34}, \delta_{24}, \delta_{34}$



New physics — active-sterile mixing

Mixing with a sterile neutrino (3+1) changes the flavor ratios:

- standard parameters: $\theta_{12}, \theta_{23}, \theta_{13}, \delta_{13}$
- sterile parameters: $\theta_{14}, \theta_{24}, \theta_{34}, \delta_{24}, \delta_{34}$



New physics — high-energy effects (I)

Add a new-physics term to the standard oscillation Hamiltonian:

$$H_{\text{tot}} = H_{\text{std}} + H_{\text{NP}}$$

$$H_{\text{std}} = \frac{1}{2E} U_{\text{PMNS}}^\dagger \text{diag} \left(0, \Delta m_{21}^2, \Delta m_{31}^2 \right) U_{\text{PMNS}}$$

$$H_{\text{NP}} = \sum_n \left(\frac{E}{\Lambda_n} \right)^n U_n^\dagger \text{diag} (O_{n,1}, O_{n,2}, O_{n,3}) U_n$$

$n = 0$

- ▶ coupling to a torsion field
- ▶ CPT-odd Lorentz violation

$n = 1$

- ▶ equivalence principle violation
- ▶ CPT-even Lorentz violation

Experimental upper bounds from atmospheric ν 's:

$$O_0 \lesssim 10^{-23} \text{ GeV}$$

$$O_1/\Lambda_1 \lesssim 10^{-27} \text{ GeV}$$

[MB, GAGO, PEÑA-GARAY, *JHEP* **1004**, 005 (2010)]

[ARGÜELLES, KATORI, SALVADÓ, 1506.02043]

[ICECUBE COLL., *PRD* **82**, 112003 (2010)]

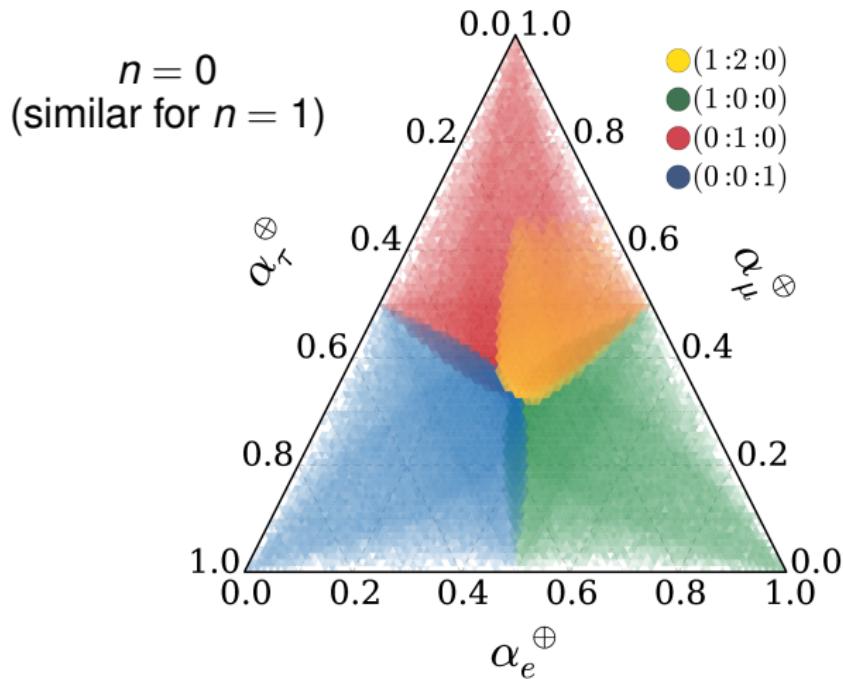
[SUPER-K COLL., *PRD* **91**, 052003 (2015)]

New physics — high-energy effects (II)

Truly exotic new physics is indeed able to populate the white region:

- ▶ use current bounds on $O_{n,i}$
- ▶ sample the unknown NP mixing angles

[ARGÜELLES, KATORI, SALVADÓ
1506.02043]

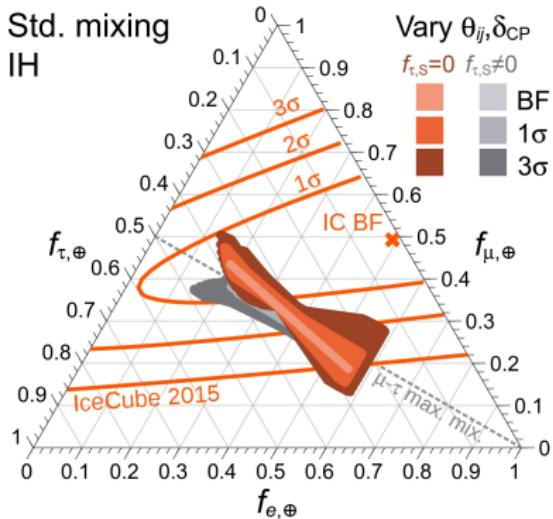
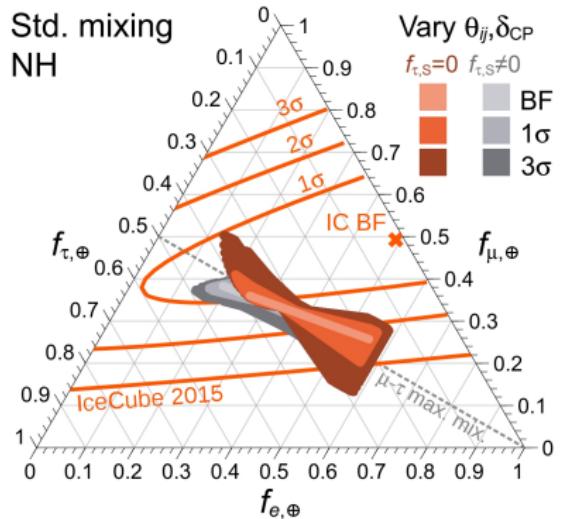


Conclusions . . . and the future

- ▶ The flavor composition is arguably the second-most interesting unknown after the identification of sources
- ▶ The space of allowed flavor compositions is **surprisingly small**:
 - ▶ Standard mixing: $\sim 10\%$ of all possibilities
 - ▶ ν_i -mixing new physics: $\sim 25\%$ (e.g., decay)
- ▶ Only a broader class of new physics (e.g., CPT violation) can access all compositions
- ▶ IceCube can improve the lifetime bounds in the NH (**now!**) and IH (**soon!**) by several orders of magnitude
- ▶ More, better data on the **particle-physics and astrophysics** fronts are needed (e.g., IceCube-Gen2, DUNE)

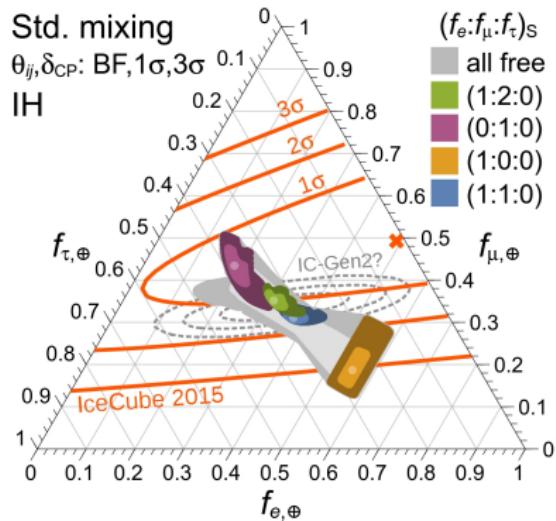
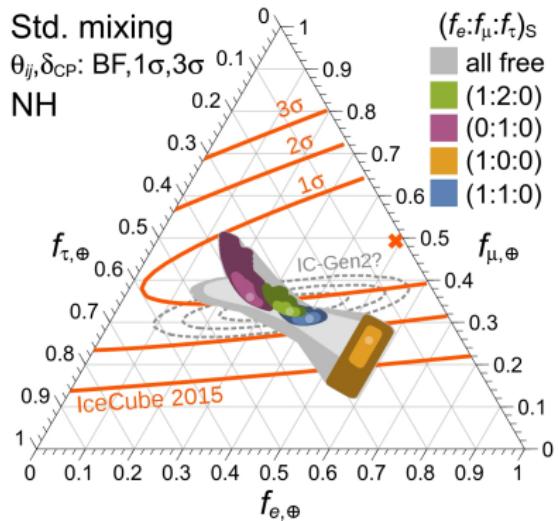
Backup slides

Flavor combinations from std. flavor mixing: NH vs. IH



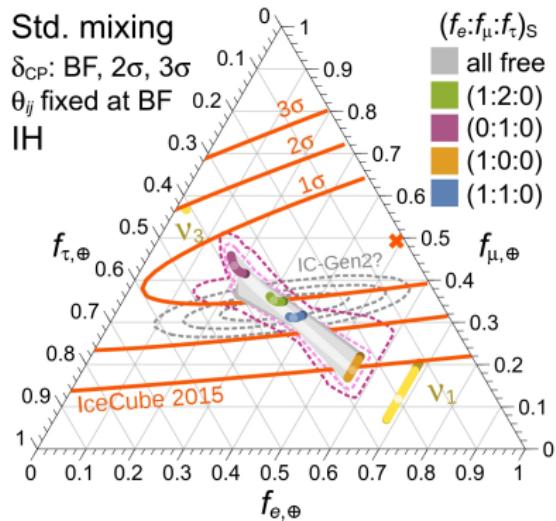
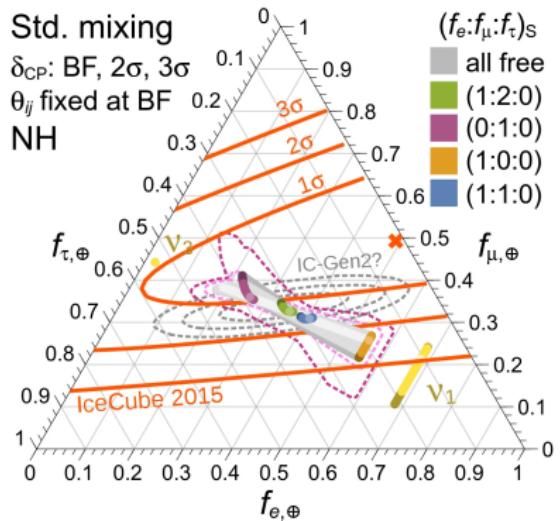
[MB, BEACOM, WINTER, 1506.02645, PRL]

Selected source compositions: NH vs. IH



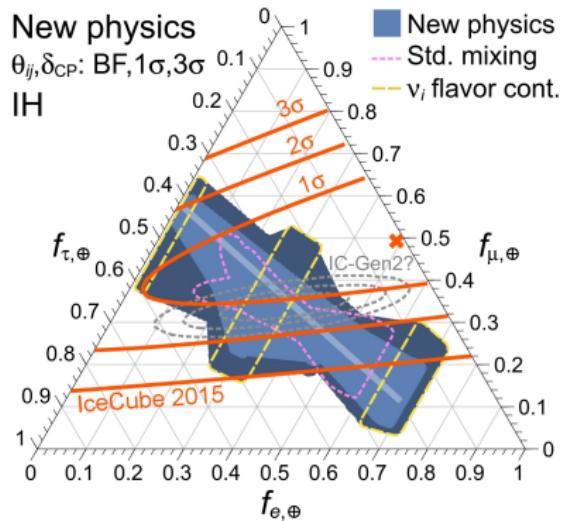
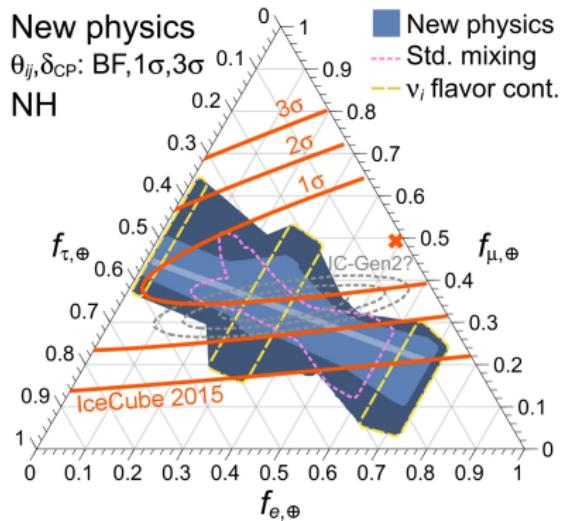
[MB, BEACOM, WINTER, 1506.02645, PRL]

Perfect knowledge of mixing angles: NH vs. IH



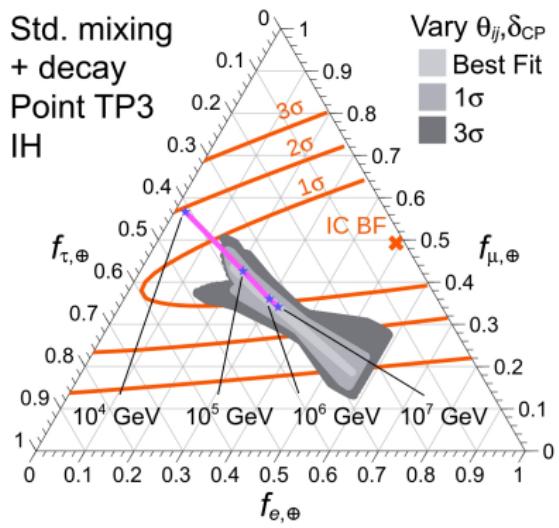
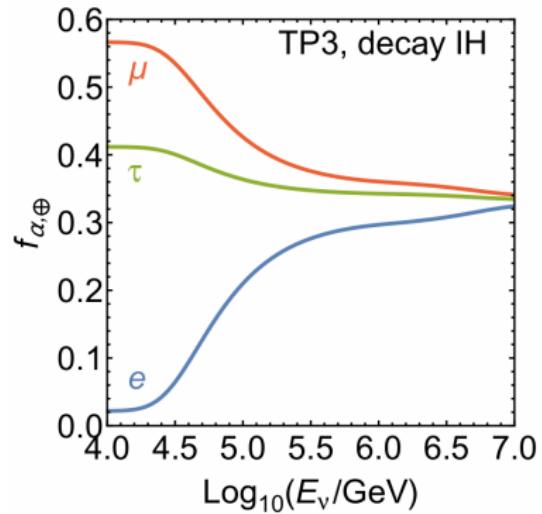
[MB, BEACOM, WINTER, 1506.02645, PRL]

New physics: NH vs. IH



[MB, BEACOM, WINTER, 1506.02645, PRL]

New physics: decay in the IH



[MB, BEACOM, WINTER, 1506.02645, PRL]

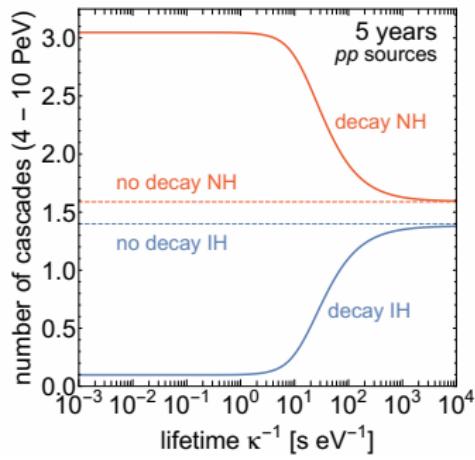
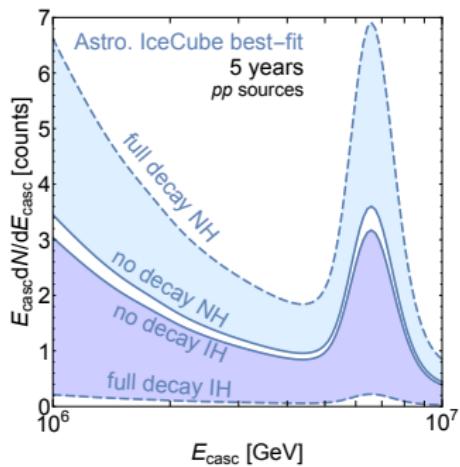
Decay: cascade rate probes the IH

- ▶ Around 6.3 PeV, the Glashow resonance is accessible:

$$\bar{\nu}_e + e \rightarrow W \rightarrow \text{hadronic shower} (\text{BR} = 67\%)$$

- ▶ Three scenarios:

- ▶ Neutrinos are stable: we see the GR as a bump in the cascade rate
- ▶ Neutrinos decay in the NH: the bump is larger ($|U_{e1}|^2$ is large)
- ▶ Neutrinos decay in the IH: no or almost no cascades ($|U_{e3}|^2$ is tiny)



[MB, BEACOM, MURASE, IN PREP.]

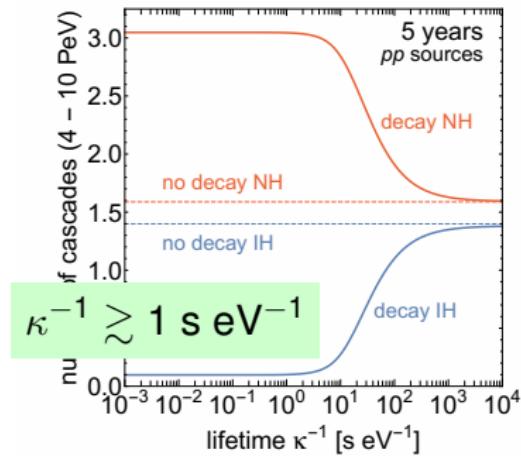
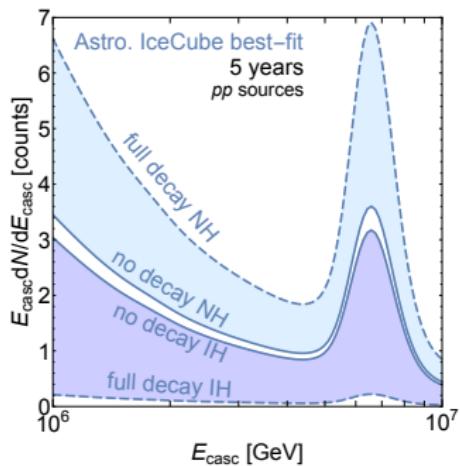
Decay: cascade rate probes the IH

- ▶ Around 6.3 PeV, the Glashow resonance is accessible:

$$\bar{\nu}_e + e \rightarrow W \rightarrow \text{hadronic shower} (\text{BR} = 67\%)$$

- ▶ Three scenarios:

- ▶ Neutrinos are stable: we see the GR as a bump in the cascade rate
- ▶ Neutrinos decay in the NH: the bump is larger ($|U_{e1}|^2$ is large)
- ▶ Neutrinos decay in the IH: no or almost no cascades ($|U_{e3}|^2$ is tiny)



[MB, BEACOM, MURASE, IN PREP.]

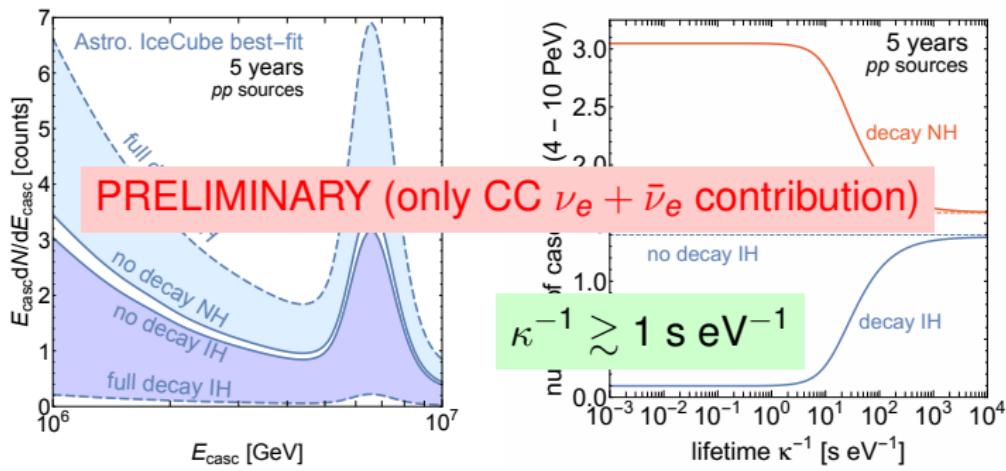
Decay: cascade rate probes the IH

- ▶ Around 6.3 PeV, the Glashow resonance is accessible:

$$\bar{\nu}_e + e \rightarrow W \rightarrow \text{hadronic shower} (\text{BR} = 67\%)$$

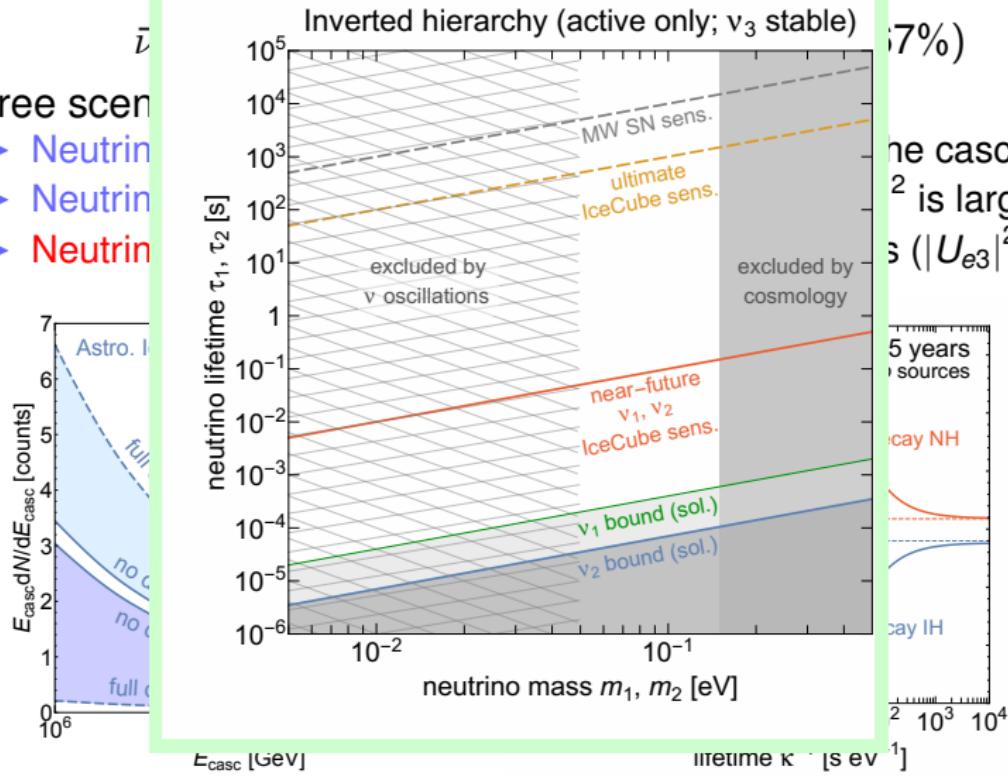
- ▶ Three scenarios:

- ▶ Neutrinos are stable: we see the GR as a bump in the cascade rate
- ▶ Neutrinos decay in the NH: the bump is larger ($|U_{e1}|^2$ is large)
- ▶ Neutrinos decay in the IH: no or almost no cascades ($|U_{e3}|^2$ is tiny)



Decay: cascade rate probes the IH

- ▶ Around 6.3 PeV, the Glashow resonance is accessible:



The need for km-scale neutrino telescopes

Expected ν flux from cosmological accelerators (WAXMAN & BAHCALL 1997–1998):

$$E^2 \Phi_\nu \sim 10^{-8} \frac{f_\pi}{0.2} \left(\frac{\dot{\varepsilon}_{\text{CR}}^{[10^{10}, 10^{12}]}}{10^{44} \text{ erg Mpc}^{-3} \text{ yr}^{-1}} \right) \text{ GeV cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}$$

Integrated flux above 1 PeV:

$$\Phi_\nu (> 1 \text{ PeV}) \sim \int_{1 \text{ PeV}}^{\infty} \frac{10^{-8}}{E^2} dE \sim 10^{-20} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}$$

Number of events from half of the sky (2π):

$$N_\nu \simeq 2\pi \cdot \Phi_\nu (> 1 \text{ PeV}) \cdot 1 \text{ yr} \cdot A_{\text{eff}} \approx (2.4 \times 10^{-10} \text{ cm}^{-2}) A_{\text{eff}},$$

where A_{eff} is the effective area of the detector

To detect $N_\nu > 1$ events per year, we need an area of

$$A_{\text{eff}} \gtrsim 0.4 \text{ km}^2$$

Therefore, we need km-scale detectors, like IceCube